

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

MINUTES

JANUARY 3, 2002

THOMAS M. GATTLE, JR.
CHAIRMAN

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

The following constitute minutes of the Commission Meeting
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Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
2000 Quail Drive

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

For more information, call (225) 765-2806

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
JANUARY 3, 2002

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, January 3, 2002

Chairman Thomas M. Gattle, Jr. presiding.

Bill Busbice
Terry Denmon
Lee Felterman
Tom Kelly
Wayne Sagrera
Jerry Stone

Secretary James H. Jenkins, Jr. was also present.

Chairman Gattle introduced and welcomed Commissioner Wayne Sagrera from Abbeville to the Commission. He noted Commissioner Sagrera was a representative for the commercial sector. Commissioner Sagrera thanked Governor Foster for appointing him and noted it will be a pleasure to serve.

Chairman Gattle called for a motion for approval of the December 6, 2001 Commission Minutes. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Denmon and seconded by Commissioner Kelly. The motion passed with no opposition.

Chairman Gattle then introduced Mr. Seth Keener with the Office of Risk Management who was at the meeting to make a presentation. Mr. Keener explained that on February 7, 2001, Enforcement Pilot Daniel Clause was flying a duck survey with two passengers onboard. The engine failed at an altitude of 1500 feet forcing Pilot Clause to conduct emergency landing procedures. He assessed potential sites to land and decided Highway 641 was the best site. He successfully landed the plane after clearing power lines with only inches to spare. Mr. Keener then announced the Office of Risk Management was proud to present the 2001 Heroic Award to Pilot Clause. Lt. Col. Clark accepted the award on behalf of Pilot Clause. He also recognized the Office of Risk Management for their years of help in developing safety procedures and a safety program.

The Revised Strategic Plan Presentation was given by Mr. Jim Patton. A statutory strategic plan began with Act 1465 and the first plan was required in 1998. He felt it was important for the Commissioners to be familiar with the Strategic Plan. This Plan is significantly different from that produced in 1998. It is concerned more with what the Department will accomplish in the future rather than a statement of what the Department is doing. The Strategic Plan will help answer questions in the future of what the Department has been doing and how these have been accomplished. The introduction for the Plan explains the mission for the Department and its statutory authority and lists the four offices within its structure. The Plan is structured both at the Department level and at the program level. Mr. Patton then showed a slide of the mission, vision and philosophy for the Department. The next slide showed the mission statements for each program. Several goals for the Office of Management & Finance, Conservationist, Admin Section within the Office of Secretary, Enforcement Division, Marketing, Office of Wildlife and Office of Fisheries were explained. Then certain strategies for each program were discussed. Progress reports can be followed by accessing the Division of Administration, Office of Planning & Budget's Internet site. Mr. Patton then stated he and Ms. Wynnette Kees were the Department's contact people for the Strategic Plan. Commissioner Denmon asked if the Department would be interested in marketing hunting and fishing similar to the way the Seafood Board markets seafood? Mr. Patton stated the Department does not have an entity that has the mission to promote recreational hunting and fishing opportunities. He then added that the Seafood Marketing Board has a statutory dedication to support its activities. Commissioner Denmon then asked if an initiative was needed from the Legislature? Mr. Patton stated the Legislature did create a recreational hunting and fishing promotion board but it was never formed. Commissioner Busbice felt the Lt. Governor's Office was active in promoting tourism which included fishing. Secretary Jenkins added that the Lt. Governor's Office of Tourism does include hunting and fishing in promoting Louisiana. He stated then that people come to Louisiana to hunt waterfowl and fish the marine resources. There is no funding source to promote the marketing of hunting and fishing.

Chairman Gattle then announced there would be a Budget Committee Meeting prior to the next regular Commission Meeting to review the budget.

Mrs. Janis Landry presented the next item, a **Notice of Intent - Harvest of Mullet**. This proposed rule would establish the regulations allowing for the transfer of mullet permits. The changes include income requirements, the transferee cannot currently hold a mullet permit nor have been barred from the fishery, there shall be no financial gain from the transfer, establishes criteria for a disability transfer, allows for the transfer only for those with no pending mullet charges, disallows a transfer if a permit is under suspension or revocation and precludes someone who transfers his permit from obtaining a mullet permit in the future. Chairman Gattle asked if these changes allow for a transfer from a person with a temporary disability? Mrs. Landry stated this proposed rule does not allow for that. Commissioner Busbice asked if there were no hardships then? Mrs. Landry commented under hardship cases, proof of income is not required and the transfer has to be to a family member. Chairman Gattle then asked about the status of a gentleman's request two meetings ago to transfer his permit. Mrs. Landry stated the transfer was completed on November 6. Commissioner Kelly made a motion approving the Notice of Intent. Commissioner Felterman seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Notice of Intent is made a part of the record.)

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to promulgate rules for the transfer of a mullet permit in accordance with R.S. 56:333.H.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

§343. Rules for Harvest of Mullet

* * *

E. 4. Notwithstanding LAC 76:VII.343.E.2, the department, upon application from an individual who is currently permitted to commercially take mullet, may transfer a valid mullet permit under the following requirements and conditions:

a. The transferee must possess and provide the department his/her social security number.

b. The transferee must possess a valid commercial fishing license and shall provide proof that he derived more than 50 percent of his earned income from the legal capture and sale of seafood species in the calendar year immediately prior to the year of application. Proof shall be for the tax year immediately prior to the application for transfer, and shall be in the form of an IRS transcript stamped by the local office, plus a copy of the applicant's personal file copy of his or her completed tax return for that year including all schedules and Form W-2's.

c. The transferee shall not currently possess a mullet permit nor have been permanently barred from the mullet fishery.

d. The transferor and the transferee each must certify that there shall be no financial gain realized for the transfer of such license or permit in accordance with Department guidelines.

e. Any mullet permit found to have been transferred for financial gain shall be rendered void, shall immediately be surrendered to the department, and shall not be reissued.

5. In the case of a proven physical hardship, the department, upon written request from an individual who is currently permitted to commercially take mullet, may transfer a valid mullet permit into the name of the spouse, parent/legal guardian, or child/legal dependent of such person under the following requirements and conditions:

a. A mullet permit holder shall make a written request that includes the name, address and social security number of both the permit holder and the person to whom the license is

requested to be transferred and shall set forth in detail the reasons justifying the request.

b. The mullet permit holder must present documentation sufficient to prove relationship as being the spouse, parent/legal guardian, or child/legal dependent, between the permit holder and the person to whom the permit is to be transferred. Examples of documents tending to establish such proof would include marriage license, birth certificate and/or judgement of legal guardianship.

c. The mullet permit holder must provide a signed statement from the treating physician setting forth the specific nature and extent of the disability together with a statement that the condition prevents participation in commercial fishing activities.

F. A valid mullet permit may only be transferred from a mullet permit holder who has no pending mullet charges for violating any provisions of R.S. 56:333 or any Commission rule or regulation adopted pursuant to R.S. 56:333 after August 15, 2001. The provisions of R.S. 56:333.F shall apply to permit transfer recipients. Permits under suspension or revocation shall not be transferable during any suspension or revocation period.

G. Any person who transfers a mullet permit shall be precluded thereafter from obtaining a mullet permit whether by transfer or other method.

H. General Provisions. Effective with the closure of the commercial season for mullet, there shall be a prohibition of the commercial take from Louisiana waters, and the possession of mullet on the waters of the state with commercial gear in possession. Nothing shall prohibit the possession, sale, barter or exchange off the water of mullet legally taken during any open period provided that those who are required to do so shall maintain appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.4 and R.S. 56:345 and be properly licensed in accordance with R.S. 56:303 or R.S. 56:306.

I. In addition, all provisions of R.S. 56:333(C) are hereby adopted and incorporated into this rule.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(25)(a), R.S. 56:325.1, R.S. 56:333 and Act 1316 of the 1995 Regular Legislative Session, R.S. 56:333.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 18:1420 (December 1992) amended LR 21:37 (January 1995), LR 22:236 (March 1996), LR 24:359 (February 1998), LR 26:2332 (October 2000), LR 28:

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Janis Landry, License Section, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, March 7, 2002.

In accordance with Act#1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

The **Monthly Law Enforcement Report for December** was given by Major Keith LaCaze. The following numbers of citations were issued during December.

Region I - Minden - 83 citations and 0 warning.

Region II - Monroe - 114 citations and 2 warnings.

Region III - Alexandria - 125 citations and 16 warnings.

Region IV - Ferriday - 77 citations and 4 warnings.

Region V - Lake Charles - 76 citations and 7 warnings.

Region VI - Opelousas - 90 citations and 3 warnings.

Region VII - Baton Rouge - 141 citations and 5 warnings.

Region VIII - New Orleans - 121 citations and 17 warnings.

Region IX - Schriever - 158 citations and 18 warnings.

Oyster Strike Force - 24 citations.

Seafood Investigation Unit - 33 citations.

SWEP - 15 citations.

Refuge Patrol - 10 citations and 5 warnings.

The grand total of citations issued statewide for the month of December was 1,067. Also there were 77 warning citations issued statewide. The aviation report for December 2001 showed enforcement pilots flew three airplanes a total of 67.9 hours for enforcement and 24.1 hours for other divisions. Six citations were issued. Then Major LaCaze announced a total of 1,324 students received their hunter education certificates for the month. The Enforcement Cadets received certificates to be instructors for both the hunter education courses and bow hunter education courses.

Major LaCaze talked about a case from the Region 2 Monroe area where four men were arrested for taking a trophy buck illegally. He explained the details behind the case and outlined the charges against the men and noted pending charges may come from further investigations. Major LaCaze complimented the officers involved in working the case. Chairman Gattle stated this was a very highly, visible case in that portion of the State and he hoped it would come to fruition.

Commissioner Busbice asked if a regulation could be developed that will keep hunters from using a firearm that would not otherwise be legal and say they are hunting hogs. Major LaCaze stated the problem could be resolved only on the WMAs. Commissioner Felterman asked what happens with the confiscations? Major LaCaze stated some are returned to the people after the case is settled and some are forfeited to the Department depending on the judicial decisions made for that case. Commissioner Felterman then asked if the number of agent positions that appears on the case reports are all filled? Major LaCaze answered no. Commissioner Busbice then asked if there has been an improvement in enforcing the 4-wheeler restrictions on the WMA trails? Major LaCaze stated a number of cases made in December in Region 4 were 4-wheeler violations.

Resolution - Adopt Wildlife Management Areas Natural Areas was handled by Mr. Kenny Ribbeck. The resolution, to be approved by the Commission, would establish Natural Areas within the General Forest Management Plan for a number of WMAs. Eleven of the 32 WMAs are not included due to their small size and no need to have a natural area on those areas. Also to be approved were the guidelines for management of the Natural Areas. Chairman Gattle asked Mr. Ribbeck to brief the Commission on Natural Areas. Mr. Ribbeck stated that when the Forest Management Program began, staff felt it was important on each WMA to set aside a certain acreage to be used as a monitoring tool and to allow an old growth component to develop in a natural process if one was not already there. The initial development occurred on Big Lake WMA in 1990. Since then Natural Areas were developed as agreed upon by Wildlife Division District staff and Natural Heritage staff. The maps included with the resolution are those that have been reviewed and compromised upon by both sections. Chairman Gattle asked Mr. Ribbeck to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Denmon made a motion approving the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Busbice. The motion passed with no opposition. Commissioner Stone asked how many total acres are involved? Mr. Ribbeck answered 28,000 acres.

(The full text of the Resolution is made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA'S NATURAL AREAS

3 January 2002

WHEREAS, since 1959, the Department has purchased, or received donations of over 440,000 acres of land dedicated as Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), and

WHEREAS, these lands were purchased as a means of conserving the dwindling bottomland hardwood forest and other special forest-type resource areas in the state along with their associated resident and migratory wildlife resources, and

WHEREAS, an integral part of forest/wildlife management includes establishment of unique and natural areas within the system, designated as such to protect fragile systems that may be damaged by disturbance and to conserve special forest characteristics as monitors of management, and

WHEREAS, in October 1995, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission endorsed and adopted the LDWF General Forest Management Plan as the official plan for administration and management of the Department's WMA Forest Resources, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does endorse and incorporate into the WMA General Forest Management Plan the described management guidelines and areas herein attached as the official Natural Areas (NA) on the respective WMAs so listed.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

A Notice of Intent to Amend Hunting Preserve Regulations was presented by Mr. Fred Kimmel. He began stating there are about 28 licensed hunting preserves in Louisiana. These lands, often commercial-type operations, allow the release of bobwhite quail, chukars, pheasants and mallards for hunting purposes under a permitting system. The regulations allow for an extended season and no limit on the released birds. Before a permit is issued, an on-site inspection occurs to make sure it complies with existing regulations and to make sure no detrimental effects may occur to native wildlife or the hunting of wildlife. Current regulations have not been amended since 1992 and staff felt it was time to update the regulations. Several major changes involve requiring an operational plan from the applicants, noting deviation from an approved operational plan could result in denial or revocation of permit, and adding a deadline date for the applications. Minor changes relate to suitability of the property, reminding the licensee these are annual permits, not lifetime, requiring all quail and mallards be banded, requiring non-toxic shot for hunting preserves using mallards and emphasizing that hunters must abide by outside regulations if they hunt native birds. Chairman Gattle asked how many preserves are releasing mallards? Mr. Kimmel stated there are between 6 and 10. Chairman Gattle then asked if they were all above I-10? Mr. Kimmel stated there is one below I-10 which was grandfathered into the rule. Then Chairman Gattle asked how much is a license? Mr. Kimmel answered \$200 per year. Commissioner Denmon asked if guidelines would be provided for the writing of the operational plan? Mr. Kimmel stated the staff's intent was to provide a template or a form that could be filled in. Commissioner Denmon asked if any existing preserves release waterfowl around an area where native waterfowl is hunted? Mr.

Kimmel stated no, the landowners are required to try to find land where the attraction of wild waterfowl is very minimum. Hearing no further questions, Chairman Gattle asked Mr. Kimmel to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Felterman made a motion approving the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Stone. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Notice of Intent are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

January 3, 2002

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge LA, January 3, 2002.

WHEREAS, authority to establish rules and regulations for hunting preserves is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:655, and

WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of resident and migratory wild game birds and allow recreational opportunities for taking of pen-reared birds on licensed hunting preserves, and

WHEREAS, this action will improve communication between hunting preserve operators and the Department, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules affecting hunting preserves are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a Notice of Intent.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the rules governing hunting preserves.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 3. Wild Birds

§305. Hunting Preserve Regulations

A. As provided by R.S. 56:651, the department may issue a license to operate Hunting Preserves. Hunting preserves are to be operated under the following regulations:

-1. Application Requirements

a. Application shall be made in writing on forms provided by the department.

b. Applicant must provide proof of ownership or verification of exclusive hunting rights from the landowner of the property the hunting preserve is to be operated. This is to be returned with the application.

c. All applicants, including applicants for renewal as required by the Department, must provide a written operational plan detailing the type(s) of birds to be released, the method(s) and time of release, and location(s) of release. A description of hunting activities that occur or are likely to occur on the preserve and surrounding property must also be included. In the case of hunting preserves approved to utilize mallards, a map must be included in the operational plan which indicates the release site, water areas, and shooting areas. A license will not be issued until the operational plan has been approved by the Department. Deviation from the approved operational plan is permitted only with written consent of the Department.

d. The department may revoke/deny any hunting preserve license for failure to comply with any fish or wildlife laws, for reasons relating to disease or public health, for

deviation from an approved operational plan, or for failure to abide by the rules and regulations established for this hunting preserve program. Revocation/denial shall be for a minimum of one entire hunting preserve season.

e. New applications must be received prior to August 1 for operation during the forthcoming hunting preserve season.

2. Suitability of Area for Use as a Hunting Preserve

a. No license for a hunting preserve shall be issued until an on-site investigation has been completed by the department and the department has determined that the property is suitable for the purpose of the proposed hunting preserve. The department shall base its determination on whether or not the proposed shooting area will cause conflicts with wild migratory game bird hunting, or be in violation of state and federal regulations concerning the feeding of migratory waterfowl or the use of live decoys, that the establishment of the shooting area will be in the public interest, and that the operation of a hunting preserve at the location specified in the application will not have a detrimental effect upon wild migratory or resident game birds.

b. No license shall be issued for any hunting preserve situated on a marsh, lake, river or any other place where there are concentrations of wild waterfowl or if its operations are likely to result in attracting such concentrations of wild waterfowl.

c. No hunting preserve using mallards shall be located within five miles of any wildlife area with significant waterfowl concentrations owned or leased by the state or federal government or by non-profit conservation organizations.

d. Licenses for hunting preserves using mallards will not be issued in the coastal zone, defined as that area south of I-10 from the Texas state line to Baton Rouge, south of I-12 from Baton Rouge to Slidell and south of I-10 from Slidell to the Mississippi state line.

e. No license shall be issued for the use of pheasants on any hunting preserve situated within areas with medium to high turkey populations. In areas with low turkey populations and low potential for expansion, pheasants may be used. This

determination will be made at the local level by a department biologist in consultation with the turkey study leader. Agricultural areas contiguous to occupied turkey habitat may use pheasants if the preserve boundaries are at least one-half mile from the nearest woodland.

f. The licensee is responsible for notifying the Department of changes in activities or conditions that may affect the suitability of the property for a hunting preserve. If at any time, the Department determines that activities or conditions on the hunting preserve or surrounding property, make the property unsuitable for a hunting preserve, or that continued operation of the hunting preserve is not consistent with these regulations, the Department may immediately revoke the hunting preserve license, or require modification of the operational plan.

g. Applicants and licensees are advised that hunting preserve licenses are issued following a review and recommendations by Department staff. Licenses are issued on an annual basis for a 12-month term only. Changing conditions, including those such as climatic, biological, and land use, which may be beyond the control of the applicant/licensee, may result in certain applications not being granted, or licenses not being renewed. Annual renewal of hunting preserve licenses cannot be assured and applicants/licensees are cautioned to take these factors into consideration when making any investments or commitments which may relate to the continued issuance of a hunting preserve license.

3. Types of Releases Allowed

a. The use of mallards on hunting preserves is limited to those operations whereby domestic mallards are released in a controlled fashion to proceed over positioned shooters in their flight path. No direct releases of any species of domesticated waterfowl into the wild for any sporting purposes or for any reasons are permitted within the state.

b. Quail may be released after September 1 on hunting preserves for the purpose of providing coveys for hunting. Pheasants and chukars may not be released on hunting preserves more than one day prior to a scheduled hunt. No direct releases of domesticated game birds, including but not limited to quail, pheasants and chukars, into the wild for purpose of population establishment are permitted within the state.

c. All quail and mallards must be banded in accordance with R.S. 56:654(4) prior to release.

4. Inspection of Permitted Areas and Domesticated Game Birds

a. Applicant must provide proof that the birds to be released originated from a source flock participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) within 365 days prior to release and have not been in contact with birds from non-NPIP sources.

b. The premises of game bird production facilities and/or holding pens may be inspected by the department or by a designated agent for assessment of health of birds and sanitation of facilities. General pen requirements must conform to those adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for game breeders.

c. Accurate records of animal husbandry and mortality must be maintained at production/holding facilities and will be subject to periodic inspection by the department.

d. Every person who brings or causes to be brought into this state live domestically reared game birds for shooting purposes must comply with Livestock Sanitary Board regulations on livestock, poultry, and wild animals (R.S. 7:11705, 11767 and 11789). A copy of the health certificate must also be forwarded to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries within 10 days for each shipment of birds. Any shipment of birds not accompanied by a health certificate shall be destroyed or returned to the place of origin by the importer at his sole cost and responsibility.

5. Hunting Licenses Requirements. A basic hunting license or hunting preserve license is required of all persons hunting on hunting preserves. In addition, a Louisiana Waterfowl Hunting License (formerly known as a state duck stamp) is required as provided by law of all persons taking or hunting mallards on any hunting preserves.

6. Season Dates. The season during which shooting will be permitted shall be set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. The current season is fixed for the period of October 1 through April 30.

7. Shooting Hours. Shooting hours for hunting preserves shall be set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. The current hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

8. Methods of Take

a. Shotguns 10 gauge or smaller capable of holding no more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined; nontoxic shot is required for hunting mallards on hunting preserves approved for use of mallards.

b. Muzzle-loading shotguns;

c. Falconry;

d. Archery equipment.

B. Existing state laws R.S. 56:651-659 and federal law 50 CFR 21:13 address bird banding, bird identification, bird transportation, reports and records and other issues. Compliance with these state and federal laws are mandatory. Hunting and taking of wild migratory and wild resident game birds on licensed hunting preserves must conform to all state and federal hunting regulations, including, but not limited to: non-toxic shot requirements, federal duck stamp requirements, live decoy prohibition, seasons, and bag limits.

C. Changes in Rules. The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may from time to time make changes in these rules and it is the responsibility of the licensee to apprise himself of any changes and to abide by them.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:651-659.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 18:1136 (October 1992), amended LR 28:

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of

intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Tommy Prickett, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Tuesday, March 5, 2002.

In accordance with Act#1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

Mr. Gary Tilyou handled the **Rule Ratification - Lake Concordia Black Bass Harvest Regulations**. The Commission approved a Notice of Intent at the September Meeting that would remove Concordia Lake from the trophy program. This program began in 1991 and Concordia had a 15 to 19 inch slot, 8 fish creel with a limit of 2 over the slot. Since that time structure of the bass population in the lake has not changed. Numerous requests have been received asking that the size limit be removed, but there were two opposed to the idea. Mr. Tilyou then asked the Commission to ratify the proposed rule. Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Busbice made a motion to ratify the rule. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Denmon and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Rule is made a part of the record.)

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby amends the following rule on black bass (Micropterus spp.) harvest restrictions on Concordia Lake located east of Ferriday in Concordia Parish, Louisiana.

Title 76

Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sports and Commercial Fishing

§149. Black Bass Regulations-Daily Take and Size Limits

A. The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission establishes a statewide daily take (creel limit) of 10 fish for black bass (*Micropterus* spp.). The possession limit shall be the same as the daily take on water and twice the daily take off water.

B. In addition, the Commission establishes special size and daily take regulations for black bass on the following water bodies:

1. Caney Creek Reservoir (Jackson Parish):

a. Size limit: 15 inch - 19 inch slot. A 15 - 19 inch slot limit means that it is illegal to keep or possess a black bass whose maximum total length is between 15 inches and 19 inches, both measurements inclusive.

b. Daily take: eight fish of which no more than two fish may exceed 19 inches maximum total length.*

c. Possession limit:

i. On water - Same as daily take.

ii. Off water - Twice the daily take.

2. Black Bayou Lake (Bossier Parish), Chicot Lake (Evangeline Parish), Cross Lake (Caddo Parish), John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish), Lake Rodemacher (Rapides Parish) and Vernon Lake (Vernon Parish):

a. Size Limit: 14 inch - 17 inch slot. A 14 - 17 inch slot limit means that it is illegal to keep or possess a black bass whose maximum total length is between 14 inches and 17 inches, both measurements inclusive.

b. Daily Take: eight fish of which no more than four fish may exceed 17 inches maximum total length.*

- c. Possession limit:
 - i. On water - Same as daily take.
 - ii. Off water - Twice the daily take.
- 3. False River (Pointe Coupee Parish)
 - a. Size limit: 14 inch minimum size limit.
 - b. Daily Take: 5 fish.
 - c. Possession limit:
 - i. On water - Same as daily take.
 - ii. Off water - Twice the daily take.

*Maximum total length - The distance in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the most posterior point of the depressed caudal fin as measured with mouth closed on a flat surface.-

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6 (25) (a), R.S. 56:325(C), R.S. 56:326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 14:364 (June 1988), amended LR 17:278 (March 1991), repromulgated LR 17:488 (May 1991), amended LR 17:1122 (November 1991), LR 20:796 (July 1994), LR 23:1168 (September 1997), LR 24:505 (March 1998), LR 26:97 (January 2000), LR 28: (January 2002).

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

A Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Recreational Season was presented by Mr. Randy Pausina. This emergency rule would set the 2002 recreational red snapper season to coincide with the season in Federal waters. Chairman Gattle asked if the season was the same as last year? Mr. Pausina answered yes, it is the same as the last two years. Chairman Gattle then asked what is the total allowable catch for both the commercial and recreational red snapper fishery? Mr. Pausina stated recreational is 4.47 million pounds and commercial is 4.65 million. Hearing no comments, Commissioner Busbice made a motion to accept the Resolution and it

was seconded by Commissioner Stone. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2002 RECREATIONAL RED SNAPPER SEASON

January 3, 2002

WHEREAS, the red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and

WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore, and

WHEREAS, NMFS has put into place a regulatory amendment under the framework procedure of the reef fish fishery management plan that establishes a recreational red snapper quota equal to the recreational allocation, and authorizes the closure of the fishery for the remainder of the fishing year (= calendar year) in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico when the quota is reached or is projected to be reached, and

WHEREAS, the Gulf Council recommended to NMFS that the 2002 recreational quota for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico be set at 4.47 million pounds, and

WHEREAS, NMFS has closed the recreational fishing season for red snapper effective midnight October 31, 2001 until April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero in the EEZ off of Louisiana for that time period, and

WHEREAS, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has enacted a closure in Louisiana state waters consistent with the EEZ

closure which is preferable as it assists in enforcement of fishery rules, and

WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 recreational red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby continues the recreational red snapper closure until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the recreational red snapper season shall open at 12:01 a.m. on April 21 until midnight October 31, 2002, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to change the opening and closure dates of the recreational red snapper season if informed that the Federal dates are other than those specified in this resolution and attached declaration of emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to close the recreational red snapper season when he is informed that the recreational red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to open an additional recreational red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is later informed that the National Marine Fisheries Service has opened an additional recreational season and to close such season when he is informed that the recreational red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate such an emergency rule.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Recreational Red Snapper Season

The red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is cooperatively managed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council). Regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore. Rules were established by NMFS to close recreational harvest season in the EEZ off of Louisiana effective midnight October 31, 2001 until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero, and NMFS requested that consistent regulations be established in Louisiana waters. NMFS typically requests consistent regulations in order to enhance the effectiveness and enforceability of regulations for EEZ waters.

In order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 recreational red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following seasons for recreational harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters:

The season for the recreational fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will remain closed until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero for that time period. The season will open April 21, 2002 and continue until midnight October 31, 2002. If the secretary is notified that the opening and closing of Federal seasons is changed, he is hereby authorized to change the opening and closing dates for state waters accordingly.

Effective with the recreational red snapper season closure, any person, except those who possess a Class 1 or Class 2 commercial red snapper license issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service under the Federal Fishery Management Plan for the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish and who are legally taking red snapper during an open commercial season, shall not possess any red snapper whether taken from within or without Louisiana territorial waters.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

Mr. Randy Pausina also handled the **Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Commercial Season**. The commercial red snapper season will be two seasons, a spring and a fall season. The structure of the seasons will be the same as it has been for the last two to three years, added Mr. Pausina. Chairman Gattle asked if the season structure has always been to close the spring season when 2/3 of the quota has been reached? Mr. Pausina answered yes, that is the way it is done in Federal waters. Commissioner Kelly made a motion accepting the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Stone. This motion also passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2002 COMMERCIAL RED SNAPPER SEASONS

January 3, 2002

WHEREAS, the red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice

from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and

WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore, and

WHEREAS, rules will be established by NMFS, to provide for commercial harvest seasons for red snapper in the EEZ off of Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries receives notice from the Gulf Council and NMFS requesting consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and

WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 commercial red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby establishes the 2002 seasons for commercial harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters as follows: the first commercial fishing season for red snapper will open at 12 noon on February 1, 2002, and remain open until 12:00 noon on February 10. This pattern will continue each month until two-thirds of the 2002 commercial quota for red snapper is harvested. The second commercial red snapper season will open at 12 noon on October 1, 2002, and remain open until 12 noon on October 10, and will also continue in this format each month until the entire 2002 quota is harvested. The minimum size limit for commercially harvested red snapper is 15 inches total length, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such closure order shall authorize the

Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 2002 commercial red snapper seasons in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that the designated portions of the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico have been filled, or are projected to be filled, for each set of seasons, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such closure order shall close the season until the date set for the re-opening of the commercial red snapper season in Federal waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all applicable rules regarding red snapper harvest including trip limits, permit requirements, and size limits, established by the Commission shall be in effect during the open seasons hereby established, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the opening dates for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of red snapper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2002 commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Commercial Red Snapper Seasons

The red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is cooperatively managed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council). Regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore. NMFS will provide rules for commercial harvest seasons for red snapper in the EEZ off of Louisiana. NMFS and the Gulf Council typically request consistent regulations in order to enhance the effectiveness and enforceability of regulations for EEZ waters.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following season for commercial harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters:

The season for the commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will open at 12 noon February 1, 2002. The commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana waters will close at 12 noon February 10, 2002, and thereafter open at 12 noon on the first of each month and close at 12 noon on the tenth of each month, for each month of 2002 until two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the 2002 commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to set the closing date for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12 noon October 1, 2002, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2002 commercial red snapper season in Federal waters.

The season for the commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will re-open at 12 noon October 1, 2002.

The commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana waters will close at 12 noon October 10, 2002, and thereafter open at 12 noon on the first of each month and close at 12 noon on the tenth of each month for each month of 2002, until the remainder of the 2002 commercial quota is harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to set the closing date for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested; such closure order shall close the season until the date set for the opening of the year 2003 commercial red snapper season in Federal waters.

The Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the opening dates for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of red snapper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters.

Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of red snapper by legally licensed recreational fishermen. Effective with any commercial closure, no person shall commercially harvest, transport, purchase, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, barter, trade or sell red snapper. Effective with the closure, no person shall possess red snapper in excess of a daily bag limit. Provided however that fish in excess of the daily bag limit which were legally taken prior to the closure may be purchased, possessed, transported, and sold by a licensed wholesale/retail dealer if appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6 are properly maintained, and those other than wholesale/retail dealers may purchase such fish in excess of the daily bag limit from wholesale/retail dealers for their own use or for sale by a restaurant as prepared fish.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

The Declaration of Emergency - King Mackerel Commercial Season was the final item by Mr. Randy Pausina. The season will open on July 1 and will close when the Department is informed by

the National Marine Fisheries Service the quota has been reached. Commissioner Feltermann made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Busbice seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2002 COMMERCIAL KING MACKEREL SEASON

January 3, 2002

WHEREAS, the king mackerel fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and

WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U. S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore, and

WHEREAS, NMFS requests consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters, which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and

WHEREAS, the 2002 commercial king mackerel season in EEZ waters will open on July 1, 2002, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons by emergency rule and R.S. 49:967 allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to set finfish seasons and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto by emergency rule, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby establishes the 2002 season for

commercial harvest of king mackerel in Louisiana state waters to open at 12:01 a.m., July 1, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all applicable rules regarding the commercial king mackerel harvest including trip and size limits, established by the Commission shall be in effect during the open season hereby established, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed by NMFS that the commercial king mackerel quota for the Western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or is projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2003, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2003 commercial king mackerel season in Federal waters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also authorizes the Secretary to open an additional commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed that NMFS has opened an additional season and to close such season when he is informed that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2002 commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Commercial King Mackerel Season

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto by emergency rule, and R.S. 56:6(25)(a) and 56:326.3 which provide that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following season and trip limit for the commercial harvest of king mackerel in Louisiana state waters:

The commercial season for king mackerel in Louisiana state waters will open at 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2002 and remain open until the allotted portion of the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or is projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2003, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2003 commercial king mackerel season in Federal waters.

The Commission also authorizes the Secretary to open an additional commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed that NMFS has opened an additional season and to close such season when he is informed that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled.

Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of king mackerel by legally licensed recreational fishermen. Effective with any closure, no person shall commercially harvest, transport, purchase, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, barter, trade or sell king mackerel. Effective with the closure, no person shall possess king mackerel in excess of a daily bag limit. Provided however that fish in excess of the daily bag limit which were legally taken prior to the closure may be purchased, possessed, transported, and sold by a licensed wholesale/retail dealer if appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S.

56:306.6 are properly maintained. Those other than wholesale/retail dealers may purchase such fish in excess of the daily bag limit from wholesale/retail dealers for their own use or for sale by a restaurant as prepared fish.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman


Chairman Gattle then asked Mr. Dave Moreland for the **Division Report on Deer Hunting Success**. Mr. Moreland began stating this has been a tough season with the main culprit being the weather. During the month of November, 25 of the 30 days had maximum temperatures between 72 and 84 degrees and this limits deer activity which results in poor hunter success. Looking at the WMA managed hunts, harvest was down about 600 deer as compared with the 10 year average. Also hunter effort was down about 3,000 from what it has been. Weather patterns will dictate what happens with deer. A lot of complaints are being received from hunters in Area 2. Area 1 and Area 6 should have a good season during the rest of January if the cold weather continued, added Mr. Moreland. The rut did occur in Areas 2 and 3 but was not seen by hunters because activity was occurring at night when it was cooler. Overall, the harvest will probably be down. Mr. Moreland then mentioned that timber companies in northwest Louisiana that are leasing their lands to hunting clubs are applying herbicides in conjunction with their pine timber management. This practice will "zap" the hardwood vegetation which is important food for deer during the spring and summer months. He emphasized that the hunting clubs should be aware that this type of management will not handle the numbers of deer that have been on their lands. Good news is reforestation is occurring along the Delta region of the State. Chairman Gattle explained how the use of herbicides are affecting the deer on his leased lands. Commissioner Busbice asked if any supplemental feeding for the spring and summer months could help? Mr. Moreland stated artificial feeding is very expensive and most hunting clubs can not afford this practice. Commissioner Stone commented he has heard of a poison that is more selective and allows for deer browse to grow. Mr. Moreland stated treatments with just arsenal allows for good growth of desirable food plants. Commissioner Stone asked if it would help to talk to the timber companies about this practice? Mr. Moreland felt it may or may not work. Concluding Mr. Moreland felt the weather has had a major influence on hunting success thus far. Commissioner Busbice commented the weather has not affected the dog season.

Mr. Tommy Prickett commended Mr. Dave Moreland and Mr. Larry Savage as well as the field staff who has lost lots of sleep collecting deer at night to document when breeding actually takes place in Louisiana. The study in deer hunting area 6 has just been completed and may result in changes to the structure for the upcoming year. Chairman Gattle asked Mr. Prickett if he had any comments on where the ducks may be? Mr. Prickett stated all of the states up the Flyway claim they do not have the ducks. Several biologists will fly the January survey beginning January 4 and hopefully they will find ducks. Commissioner Stone asked if the amount of water could dilute the duck count? Mr. Prickett stated it could diminish hunting success, but there are no reports of concentrations of ducks. The only two areas that have been consistent with good duck hunting reports this year are the mouth of the Mississippi River and the big delta at Atchafalaya Delta.

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **May 2002 Meeting** on Thursday, May 2, 2002 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

Chairman Gattle then asked for any **Public Comments** and none were heard.

There being no further business, Commissioner Denmon made a motion to **Adjourn** the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Kelly.



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

JHJ:sch

Marianne,

Please review,

Thanks,
1-10/02 Susan
1/9/2002

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, January 3, 2002

Mr. Gattle, Jr. presiding.

~~Bill Busby~~
Terry Denmon
Lee Felterman
Tom Kelly
Wayne Sagrera
Jerry Stone

Secretary James H. Jenkins, Jr. was also present.

Chairman Gattle introduced and welcomed Commissioner Wayne Sagrera from Abbeville to the Commission. He noted Commissioner Sagrera was a representative for the commercial sector. Commissioner Sagrera thanked Governor Foster for appointing him and noted it will be a pleasure to serve.

Chairman Gattle called for a motion for approval of the **December 6, 2001 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Denmon and seconded by Commissioner Kelly. The motion passed with no opposition.

Chairman Gattle then introduced Mr. Seth Keener with the Office of Risk Management who was at the meeting to make a presentation. Mr. Keener explained that on February 7, 2001, Enforcement Pilot Daniel Claus was flying a duck survey with two passengers onboard. The engine failed at an altitude of 1500 feet forcing Pilot Claus to conduct emergency landing procedures. He assessed potential sites to land and decided Highway 641 was the best site. He successfully landed the plane after clearing power lines with only inches to spare. Mr. Keener then announced the Office of Risk Management was proud to present the 2001 Heroic Award to Pilot Claus. Lt. Col. Clark accepted the award on behalf of Pilot Claus. He also recognized the Office of Risk Management for their years of help in developing safety procedures and a safety program.

The **Revised Strategic Plan Presentation** was given by Mr. Jim Patton. A statutory strategic plan began with Act 1465 and the first plan was required in 1998. He felt it was important for the Commissioners to be familiar with the Strategic Plan. This Plan is significantly different from that produced in 1998. It is concerned more with what the Department will accomplish in the future rather than a statement of what the Department is doing. The Strategic Plan will help answer questions in the future of what the Department has been doing and how these have been accomplished. The introduction for the Plan explains the mission for the Department and its statutory authority and lists the four offices within its structure. The Plan is structured both at the Department level and at the program level. Mr. Patton then showed a slide of the mission, vision and philosophy for the Department. The next slide showed the mission statements for each program. Several goals for the Office of Management & Finance, Conservationist, Admin Section within the Office of Secretary, Enforcement Division, Marketing, Office of Wildlife and Office of Fisheries were explained. Then certain strategies for each program were discussed. Progress reports can be followed by accessing the Division of Administration, Office of Planning & Budget's Internet site. Mr. Patton then stated he and Ms. Wynnette Kees were the Department's contact people for the Strategic Plan. Commissioner Denmon asked if the Department would be interested in marketing hunting and fishing similar to the way the Seafood Board markets seafood? Mr. Patton stated the Department does not have an entity that has the mission to promote recreational hunting and fishing opportunities. He then added that the Seafood Marketing Board has a statutory dedication to support its activities. Commissioner Denmon then asked if an initiative was needed from the Legislature? Mr. Patton stated the Legislature did create a recreational hunting and fishing promotion board but it was never formed. Commissioner Busbice felt the Lt. Governor's Office was active in promoting tourism which included fishing. Secretary Jenkins added that the Lt. Governor's Office of Tourism does include hunting and fishing in promoting Louisiana. He stated then that people come to Louisiana to hunt waterfowl and fish the marine resources. There is no funding source to promote the marketing of hunting and fishing.

Chairman Gattle then announced there would be a Budget Committee Meeting prior to the next regular Commission Meeting to review the budget.

Mrs. Janis Landry presented the next item, a **Notice of Intent - Harvest of Mullet**. This proposed rule would establish the regulations allowing for the transfer of mullet permits. The changes include income requirements, the transferee cannot currently hold a mullet permit nor have been barred from the fishery, there shall be no financial gain from the transfer, establishes criteria for a disability transfer, allows for the transfer only for those with no pending mullet charges, disallows a transfer if a permit is under suspension or revocation and precludes someone who transfers his permit from obtaining a mullet permit in the future. Chairman Gattle asked if these changes allow for a transfer from a person with a temporary disability? Mrs. Landry stated this proposed rule does not allow for that. Commissioner Busbice asked if there were no hardships then? Mrs. Landry commented under hardship cases, proof of income is not required and the transfer has to be to a family member. Chairman Gattle then asked about the status of a gentleman's request two meetings ago to transfer his permit. Mrs. Landry stated the transfer was completed on November 6. Commissioner Kelly made a motion approving the Notice of Intent. Commissioner Felterman seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Notice of Intent is made a part of the record.)

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to promulgate rules for the transfer of a mullet permit in accordance with R.S. 56:333.H.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

§343. Rules for Harvest of Mullet

* * *

E. 4. Notwithstanding LAC 76:VII.343.E.2, the department, upon application from an individual who is currently permitted to commercially take mullet, may transfer a valid mullet permit under the following requirements and conditions:

a. The transferee must possess and provide the department his/her social security number.

b. The transferee must possess a valid commercial fishing license and shall provide proof that he derived more than 50 percent of his earned income from the legal capture and sale of seafood species in the calendar year immediately prior to the year of application. Proof shall be for the tax year immediately prior to the application for transfer, and shall be in the form of an IRS transcript stamped by the local office, plus a copy of the applicant's personal file copy of his or her completed tax return for that year including all schedules and Form W-2's.

c. The transferee shall not currently possess a mullet permit nor have been permanently barred from the mullet fishery.

d. The transferor and the transferee each must certify that there shall be no financial gain realized for the transfer of such license or permit in accordance with Department guidelines.

e. Any mullet permit found to have been transferred for financial gain shall be rendered void, shall immediately be surrendered to the department, and shall not be reissued.

5. In the case of a proven physical hardship, the department, upon written request from an individual who is currently permitted to commercially take mullet, may transfer a valid mullet permit into the name of the spouse, parent/legal guardian, or child/legal dependent of such person under the following requirements and conditions:

a. A mullet permit holder shall make a written request that includes the name, address and social security number of both the permit holder and the person to whom the license is

requested to be transferred and shall set forth in detail the reasons justifying the request.

b. The mullet permit holder must present documentation sufficient to prove relationship as being the spouse, parent/legal guardian, or child/legal dependent, between the permit holder and the person to whom the permit is to be transferred. Examples of documents tending to establish such proof would include marriage license, birth certificate and/or judgement of legal guardianship.

c. The mullet permit holder must provide a signed statement from the treating physician setting forth the specific nature and extent of the disability together with a statement that the condition prevents participation in commercial fishing activities.

F. A valid mullet permit may only be transferred from a mullet permit holder who has no pending mullet charges for violating any provisions of R.S. 56:333 or any Commission rule or regulation adopted pursuant to R.S. 56:333 after August 15, 2001. The provisions of R.S. 56:333.F shall apply to permit transfer recipients. Permits under suspension or revocation shall not be transferable during any suspension or revocation period.

G. Any person who transfers a mullet permit shall be precluded thereafter from obtaining a mullet permit whether by transfer or other method.

H. General Provisions. Effective with the closure of the commercial season for mullet, there shall be a prohibition of the commercial take from Louisiana waters, and the possession of mullet on the waters of the state with commercial gear in possession. Nothing shall prohibit the possession, sale, barter or exchange off the water of mullet legally taken during any open period provided that those who are required to do so shall maintain appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.4 and R.S. 56:345 and be properly licensed in accordance with R.S. 56:303 or R.S. 56:306.

I. In addition, all provisions of R.S. 56:333(C) are hereby adopted and incorporated into this rule.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(25)(a), R.S. 56:325.1, R.S. 56:333 and Act 1316 of the 1995 Regular Legislative Session, R.S. 56:333.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 18:1420 (December 1992) amended LR 21:37 (January 1995), LR 22:236 (March 1996), LR 24:359 (February 1998), LR 26:2332 (October 2000), LR 28:

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Janis Landry, License Section, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, March 7, 2002.

In accordance with Act#1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

The **Monthly Law Enforcement Report for December** was given by Major Keith LaCaze. The following numbers of citations were issued during December.

Region I - Minden - 83 citations and 0 warning.

Region II - Monroe - 114 citations and 2 warnings.

Region III - Alexandria - 125 citations and 16 warnings.

Region IV - Ferriday - 77 citations and 4 warnings.

Region V - Lake Charles - 76 citations and 7 warnings.

Region VI - Opelousas - 90 citations and 3 warnings.

Region VII - Baton Rouge - 141 citations and 5 warnings.

Region VIII - New Orleans - 121 citations and 17 warnings.

Region IX - Schriever - 158 citations and 18 warnings.

Oyster Strike Force - 24 citations.

Seafood Investigation Unit - 33 citations.

SWEP - 15 citations.

Refuge Patrol - 10 citations and 5 warnings.

The grand total of citations issued statewide for the month of December was 1,067. Also there were 77 warning citations issued statewide. The aviation report for December 2001 showed enforcement pilots flew three airplanes a total of 67.9 hours for enforcement and 24.1 hours for other divisions. Six citations were issued. Then Major LaCaze announced a total of 1,324 students received their hunter education certificates for the month. The Enforcement Cadets received certificates to be instructors for both the hunter education courses and bow hunter education courses.

Major LaCaze talked about a case from the Region 2 Monroe area where four men were arrested for taking a trophy buck illegally. He explained the details behind the case and outlined the charges against the men and noted pending charges may come from further investigations. Major LaCaze complimented the officers involved in working the case. Chairman Gattle stated this was a very highly, visible case in that portion of the State and he hoped it would come to fruition.

Commissioner Busbice asked if a regulation could be developed that will keep hunters from using a firearm that would not otherwise be legal and say they are hunting hogs. Major LaCaze stated the problem could be resolved only on the WMAs. Commissioner Felterman asked what happens with the confiscations? Major LaCaze stated some are returned to the people after the case is settled and some are forfeited to the Department depending on the judicial decisions made for that case. Commissioner Felterman then asked if the number of agent positions that appears on the case reports are all filled? Major LaCaze answered no. Commissioner Busbice then asked if there has been an improvement in enforcing the 4-wheeler restrictions on the WMA trails? Major LaCaze stated a number of cases made in December in Region 4 were 4-wheeler violations.

Resolution - Adopt Wildlife Management Areas Natural Areas was handled by Mr. Kenny Ribbeck. The resolution, to be approved by the Commission, would establish Natural Areas within the General Forest Management Plan for a number of WMAs. Eleven of the 32 WMAs are not included due to their small size and no need to have a natural area on those areas. Also to be approved were the guidelines for management of the Natural Areas. Chairman Gattle asked Mr. Ribbeck to brief the Commission on Natural Areas. Mr. Ribbeck stated that when the Forest Management Program began, staff felt it was important on each WMA to set aside a certain acreage to be used as a monitoring tool and to allow an old growth component to develop in a natural process if one was not already there. The initial development occurred on Big Lake WMA in 1990. Since then Natural Areas were developed as agreed upon by Wildlife Division District staff and Natural Heritage staff. The maps included with the resolution are those that have been reviewed and compromised upon by both sections. Chairman Gattle asked Mr. Ribbeck to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Denmon made a motion approving the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Busbice. The motion passed with no opposition. Commissioner Stone asked how many total acres are involved? Mr. Ribbeck answered 28,000 acres.

(The full text of the Resolution is made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA'S NATURAL AREAS

3 January 2002

WHEREAS, since 1959, the Department has purchased, or received donations of over 440,000 acres of land dedicated as Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), and

WHEREAS, these lands were purchased as a means of conserving the dwindling bottomland hardwood forest and other special forest-type resource areas in the state along with their associated resident and migratory wildlife resources, and

WHEREAS, an integral part of forest/wildlife management includes establishment of unique and natural areas within the system, designated as such to protect fragile systems that may be damaged by disturbance and to conserve special forest characteristics as monitors of management, and

WHEREAS, in October 1995, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission endorsed and adopted the LDWF General Forest Management Plan as the official plan for administration and management of the Department's WMA Forest Resources, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does endorse and incorporate into the WMA General Forest Management Plan the described management guidelines and areas herein attached as the official Natural Areas (NA) on the respective WMAs so listed.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

A Notice of Intent to Amend Hunting Preserve Regulations was presented by Mr. Fred Kimmel. He began stating there are about 28 licensed hunting preserves in Louisiana. These lands, often commercial-type operations, allow the release of bobwhite quail, chukars, pheasants and mallards for hunting purposes under a permitting system. The regulations allow for an extended season and no limit on the released birds. Before a permit is issued, an on-site inspection occurs to make sure it complies with existing regulations and to make sure no detrimental effects may occur to native wildlife or the hunting of wildlife. Current regulations have not been amended since 1992 and staff felt it was time to update the regulations. Several major changes involve requiring an operational plan from the applicants, noting deviation from an approved operational plan could result in denial or revocation of permit, and adding a deadline date for the applications. Minor changes relate to suitability of the property, reminding the licensee these are annual permits, not lifetime, requiring all quail and mallards be banded, requiring non-toxic shot for hunting preserves using mallards and emphasizing that hunters must abide by outside regulations if they hunt native birds. Chairman Gattle asked how many preserves are releasing mallards? Mr. Kimmel stated there are between 6 and 10. Chairman Gattle then asked if they were all above I-10? Mr. Kimmel stated there is one below I-10 which was grandfathered into the rule. Then Chairman Gattle asked how much is a license? Mr. Kimmel answered \$200 per year. Commissioner Denmon asked if guidelines would be provided for the writing of the operational plan? Mr. Kimmel stated the staff's intent was to provide a template or a form that could be filled in. Commissioner Denmon asked if any existing preserves release waterfowl around an area where native waterfowl is hunted? Mr.

Kimmel stated no, the landowners are required to try to find land where the attraction of wild waterfowl is very minimum. Hearing no further questions, Chairman Gattle asked Mr. Kimmel to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Felterman made a motion approving the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Stone. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Notice of Intent are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

January 3, 2002

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge LA, January 3, 2002.

WHEREAS, authority to establish rules and regulations for hunting preserves is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:655, and

WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of resident and migratory wild game birds and allow recreational opportunities for taking of pen-reared birds on licensed hunting preserves, and

WHEREAS, this action will improve communication between hunting preserve operators and the Department, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules affecting hunting preserves are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a Notice of Intent.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the rules governing hunting preserves.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 3. Wild Birds

§305. Hunting Preserve Regulations

A. As provided by R.S. 56:651, the department may issue a license to operate Hunting Preserves. Hunting preserves are to be operated under the following regulations:

1. Application Requirements

a. Application shall be made in writing on forms provided by the department.

b. Applicant must provide proof of ownership or verification of exclusive hunting rights from the landowner of the property the hunting preserve is to be operated. This is to be returned with the application.

c. All applicants, including applicants for renewal as required by the Department, must provide a written operational plan detailing the type(s) of birds to be released, the method(s) and time of release, and location(s) of release. A description of hunting activities that occur or are likely to occur on the preserve and surrounding property must also be included. In the case of hunting preserves approved to utilize mallards, a map must be included in the operational plan which indicates the release site, water areas, and shooting areas. A license will not be issued until the operational plan has been approved by the Department. Deviation from the approved operational plan is permitted only with written consent of the Department.

d. The department may revoke/deny any hunting preserve license for failure to comply with any fish or wildlife laws, for reasons relating to disease or public health, for

deviation from an approved operational plan, or for failure to abide by the rules and regulations established for this hunting preserve program. Revocation/denial shall be for a minimum of one entire hunting preserve season.

e. New applications must be received prior to August 1 for operation during the forthcoming hunting preserve season.

2. Suitability of Area for Use as a Hunting Preserve

a. No license for a hunting preserve shall be issued until an on-site investigation has been completed by the department and the department has determined that the property is suitable for the purpose of the proposed hunting preserve. The department shall base its determination on whether or not the proposed shooting area will cause conflicts with wild migratory game bird hunting, or be in violation of state and federal regulations concerning the feeding of migratory waterfowl or the use of live decoys, that the establishment of the shooting area will be in the public interest, and that the operation of a hunting preserve at the location specified in the application will not have a detrimental effect upon wild migratory or resident game birds.

b. No license shall be issued for any hunting preserve situated on a marsh, lake, river or any other place where there are concentrations of wild waterfowl or if its operations are likely to result in attracting such concentrations of wild waterfowl.

c. No hunting preserve using mallards shall be located within five miles of any wildlife area with significant waterfowl concentrations owned or leased by the state or federal government or by non-profit conservation organizations.

d. Licenses for hunting preserves using mallards will not be issued in the coastal zone, defined as that area south of I-10 from the Texas state line to Baton Rouge, south of I-12 from Baton Rouge to Slidell and south of I-10 from Slidell to the Mississippi state line.

e. No license shall be issued for the use of pheasants on any hunting preserve situated within areas with medium to high turkey populations. In areas with low turkey populations and low potential for expansion, pheasants may be used. This

determination will be made at the local level by a department biologist in consultation with the turkey study leader. Agricultural areas contiguous to occupied turkey habitat may use pheasants if the preserve boundaries are at least one-half mile from the nearest woodland.

f. The licensee is responsible for notifying the Department of changes in activities or conditions that may affect the suitability of the property for a hunting preserve. If at any time, the Department determines that activities or conditions on the hunting preserve or surrounding property, make the property unsuitable for a hunting preserve, or that continued operation of the hunting preserve is not consistent with these regulations, the Department may immediately revoke the hunting preserve license, or require modification of the operational plan.

g. Applicants and licensees are advised that hunting preserve licenses are issued following a review and recommendations by Department staff. Licenses are issued on an annual basis for a 12-month term only. Changing conditions, including those such as climatic, biological, and land use, which may be beyond the control of the applicant/licensee, may result in certain applications not being granted, or licenses not being renewed. Annual renewal of hunting preserve licenses cannot be assured and applicants/licensees are cautioned to take these factors into consideration when making any investments or commitments which may relate to the continued issuance of a hunting preserve license.

3. Types of Releases Allowed

a. The use of mallards on hunting preserves is limited to those operations whereby domestic mallards are released in a controlled fashion to proceed over positioned shooters in their flight path. No direct releases of any species of domesticated waterfowl into the wild for any sporting purposes or for any reasons are permitted within the state.

b. Quail may be released after September 1 on hunting preserves for the purpose of providing coveys for hunting. Pheasants and chukars may not be released on hunting preserves more than one day prior to a scheduled hunt. No direct releases of domesticated game birds, including but not limited to quail, pheasants and chukars, into the wild for purpose of population establishment are permitted within the state.

c. All quail and mallards must be banded in accordance with R.S. 56:654(4) prior to release.

4. Inspection of Permitted Areas and Domesticated Game Birds

a. Applicant must provide proof that the birds to be released originated from a source flock participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) within 365 days prior to release and have not been in contact with birds from non-NPIP sources.

b. The premises of game bird production facilities and/or holding pens may be inspected by the department or by a designated agent for assessment of health of birds and sanitation of facilities. General pen requirements must conform to those adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for game breeders.

c. Accurate records of animal husbandry and mortality must be maintained at production/holding facilities and will be subject to periodic inspection by the department.

d. Every person who brings or causes to be brought into this state live domestically reared game birds for shooting purposes must comply with Livestock Sanitary Board regulations on livestock, poultry, and wild animals (R.S. 7:11705, 11767 and 11789). A copy of the health certificate must also be forwarded to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries within 10 days for each shipment of birds. Any shipment of birds not accompanied by a health certificate shall be destroyed or returned to the place of origin by the importer at his sole cost and responsibility.

5. Hunting Licenses Requirements. A basic hunting license or hunting preserve license is required of all persons hunting on hunting preserves. In addition, a Louisiana Waterfowl Hunting License (formerly known as a state duck stamp) is required as provided by law of all persons taking or hunting mallards on any hunting preserves.

6. Season Dates. The season during which shooting will be permitted shall be set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. The current season is fixed for the period of October 1 through April 30.

7. Shooting Hours. Shooting hours for hunting preserves shall be set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. The current hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

8. Methods of Take

a. Shotguns 10 gauge or smaller capable of holding no more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined; nontoxic shot is required for hunting mallards on hunting preserves approved for use of mallards.

b. Muzzle-loading shotguns;

c. Falconry;

d. Archery equipment.

B. Existing state laws R.S. 56:651-659 and federal law 50 CFR 21:13 address bird banding, bird identification, bird transportation, reports and records and other issues. Compliance with these state and federal laws are mandatory. Hunting and taking of wild migratory and wild resident game birds on licensed hunting preserves must conform to all state and federal hunting regulations, including, but not limited to: non-toxic shot requirements, federal duck stamp requirements, live decoy prohibition, seasons, and bag limits.

C. Changes in Rules. The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may from time to time make changes in these rules and it is the responsibility of the licensee to apprise himself of any changes and to abide by them.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:651-659.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 18:1136 (October 1992), amended LR 28:

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of

intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Tommy Prickett, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Tuesday, March 5, 2002.

In accordance with Act#1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

Mr. Gary Tilyou handled the **Rule Ratification - Lake Concordia Black Bass Harvest Regulations**. The Commission approved a Notice of Intent at the September Meeting that would remove Concordia Lake from the trophy program. This program began in 1991 and Concordia had a 15 to 19 inch slot, 8 fish creel with a limit of 2 over the slot. Since that time structure of the bass population in the lake has not changed. Numerous requests have been received asking that the size limit be removed, but there were two opposed to the idea. Mr. Tilyou then asked the Commission to ratify the proposed rule. Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Busbice made a motion to ratify the rule. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Denmon and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Rule is made a part of the record.)

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby amends the following rule on black bass (Micropterus spp.) harvest restrictions on Concordia Lake located east of Ferriday in Concordia Parish, Louisiana.

Title 76

Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sports and Commercial Fishing

§149. Black Bass Regulations-Daily Take and Size Limits

A. The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission establishes a statewide daily take (creel limit) of 10 fish for black bass (*Micropterus* spp.). The possession limit shall be the same as the daily take on water and twice the daily take off water.

B. In addition, the Commission establishes special size and daily take regulations for black bass on the following water bodies:

1. Caney Creek Reservoir (Jackson Parish):

a. Size limit: 15 inch - 19 inch slot. A 15 - 19 inch slot limit means that it is illegal to keep or possess a black bass whose maximum total length is between 15 inches and 19 inches, both measurements inclusive.

b. Daily take: eight fish of which no more than two fish may exceed 19 inches maximum total length.*

c. Possession limit:

i. On water - Same as daily take.

ii. Off water - Twice the daily take.

2. Black Bayou Lake (Bossier Parish), Chicot Lake (Evangeline Parish), Cross Lake (Caddo Parish), John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish), Lake Rodemacher (Rapides Parish) and Vernon Lake (Vernon Parish):

a. Size Limit: 14 inch - 17 inch slot. A 14 - 17 inch slot limit means that it is illegal to keep or possess a black bass whose maximum total length is between 14 inches and 17 inches, both measurements inclusive.

b. Daily Take: eight fish of which no more than four fish may exceed 17 inches maximum total length.*

c. Possession limit:

i. On water - Same as daily take.

ii. Off water - Twice the daily take.

3. False River (Pointe Coupee Parish)

a. Size limit: 14 inch minimum size limit.

b. Daily Take: 5 fish.

c. Possession limit:

i. On water - Same as daily take.

ii. Off water - Twice the daily take.

*Maximum total length - The distance in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the most posterior point of the depressed caudal fin as measured with mouth closed on a flat surface.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6 (25) (a), R.S. 56:325 (C), R.S. 56:326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 14:364 (June 1988), amended LR 17:278 (March 1991), repromulgated LR 17:488 (May 1991), amended LR 17:1122 (November 1991), LR 20:796 (July 1994), LR 23:1168 (September 1997), LR 24:505 (March 1998), LR 26:97 (January 2000), LR 28: (January 2002).

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

A Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Recreational Season was presented by Mr. Randy Pausina. This emergency rule would set the 2002 recreational red snapper season to coincide with the season in Federal waters. Chairman Gattle asked if the season was the same as last year? Mr. Pausina answered yes, it is the same as the last two years. Chairman Gattle then asked what is the total allowable catch for both the commercial and recreational red snapper fishery? Mr. Pausina stated recreational is 4.47 million pounds and commercial is 4.65 million. Hearing no comments, Commissioner Busbice made a motion to accept the Resolution and it

was seconded by Commissioner Stone. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2002 RECREATIONAL RED SNAPPER SEASON

January 3, 2002

- WHEREAS, the red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and
- WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore, and
- WHEREAS, NMFS has put into place a regulatory amendment under the framework procedure of the reef fish fishery management plan that establishes a recreational red snapper quota equal to the recreational allocation, and authorizes the closure of the fishery for the remainder of the fishing year (= calendar year) in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico when the quota is reached or is projected to be reached, and
- WHEREAS, the Gulf Council recommended to NMFS that the 2002 recreational quota for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico be set at 4.47 million pounds, and
- WHEREAS, NMFS has closed the recreational fishing season for red snapper effective midnight October 31, 2001 until April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero in the EEZ off of Louisiana for that time period, and
- WHEREAS, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has enacted a closure in Louisiana state waters consistent with the EEZ

closure which is preferable as it assists in enforcement of fishery rules, and

WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 recreational red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby continues the recreational red snapper closure until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the recreational red snapper season shall open at 12:01 a.m. on April 21 until midnight October 31, 2002, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to change the opening and closure dates of the recreational red snapper season if informed that the Federal dates are other than those specified in this resolution and attached declaration of emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to close the recreational red snapper season when he is informed that the recreational red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to open an additional recreational red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is later informed that the National Marine Fisheries Service has opened an additional recreational season and to close such season when he is informed that the recreational red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate such an emergency rule.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Recreational Red Snapper Season

The red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is cooperatively managed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council). Regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore. Rules were established by NMFS to close recreational harvest season in the EEZ off of Louisiana effective midnight October 31, 2001 until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero, and NMFS requested that consistent regulations be established in Louisiana waters. NMFS typically requests consistent regulations in order to enhance the effectiveness and enforceability of regulations for EEZ waters.

In order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 recreational red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following seasons for recreational harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters:

The season for the recreational fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will remain closed until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero for that time period. The season will open April 21, 2002 and continue until midnight October 31, 2002. If the secretary is notified that the opening and closing of Federal seasons is changed, he is hereby authorized to change the opening and closing dates for state waters accordingly.

Effective with the recreational red snapper season closure, any person, except those who possess a Class 1 or Class 2 commercial red snapper license issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service under the Federal Fishery Management Plan for the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish and who are legally taking red snapper during an open commercial season, shall not possess any red snapper whether taken from within or without Louisiana territorial waters.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

Mr. Randy Pausina also handled the **Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Commercial Season**. The commercial red snapper season will be two seasons, a spring and a fall season. The structure of the seasons will be the same as it has been for the last two to three years, added Mr. Pausina. Chairman Gattle asked if the season structure has always been to close the spring season when 2/3 of the quota has been reached? Mr. Pausina answered yes, that is the way it is done in Federal waters. Commissioner Kelly made a motion accepting the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Stone. This motion also passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2002 COMMERCIAL RED SNAPPER SEASONS

January 3, 2002

WHEREAS, the red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice

from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and

WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore, and

WHEREAS, rules will be established by NMFS, to provide for commercial harvest seasons for red snapper in the EEZ off of Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries receives notice from the Gulf Council and NMFS requesting consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and

WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 commercial red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby establishes the 2002 seasons for commercial harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters as follows: the first commercial fishing season for red snapper will open at 12 noon on February 1, 2002, and remain open until 12:00 noon on February 10. This pattern will continue each month until two-thirds of the 2002 commercial quota for red snapper is harvested. The second commercial red snapper season will open at 12 noon on October 1, 2002, and remain open until 12 noon on October 10, and will also continue in this format each month until the entire 2002 quota is harvested. The minimum size limit for commercially harvested red snapper is 15 inches total length, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such closure order shall authorize the

Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 2002 commercial red snapper seasons in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that the designated portions of the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico have been filled, or are projected to be filled, for each set of seasons, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such closure order shall close the season until the date set for the re-opening of the commercial red snapper season in Federal waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all applicable rules regarding red snapper harvest including trip limits, permit requirements, and size limits, established by the Commission shall be in effect during the open seasons hereby established, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the opening dates for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of red snapper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2002 commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Commercial Red Snapper Seasons

The red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is cooperatively managed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council). Regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore. NMFS will provide rules for commercial harvest seasons for red snapper in the EEZ off of Louisiana. NMFS and the Gulf Council typically request consistent regulations in order to enhance the effectiveness and enforceability of regulations for EEZ waters.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following season for commercial harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters:

The season for the commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will open at 12 noon February 1, 2002. The commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana waters will close at 12 noon February 10, 2002, and thereafter open at 12 noon on the first of each month and close at 12 noon on the tenth of each month, for each month of 2002 until two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the 2002 commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to set the closing date for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12 noon October 1, 2002, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2002 commercial red snapper season in Federal waters.

The season for the commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will re-open at 12 noon October 1, 2002.

The commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana waters will close at 12 noon October 10, 2002, and thereafter open at 12 noon on the first of each month and close at 12 noon on the tenth of each month for each month of 2002, until the remainder of the 2002 commercial quota is harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to set the closing date for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested; such closure order shall close the season until the date set for the opening of the year 2003 commercial red snapper season in Federal waters.

The Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the opening dates for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of red snapper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters.

Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of red snapper by legally licensed recreational fishermen. Effective with any commercial closure, no person shall commercially harvest, transport, purchase, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, barter, trade or sell red snapper. Effective with the closure, no person shall possess red snapper in excess of a daily bag limit. Provided however that fish in excess of the daily bag limit which were legally taken prior to the closure may be purchased, possessed, transported, and sold by a licensed wholesale/retail dealer if appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6 are properly maintained, and those other than wholesale/retail dealers may purchase such fish in excess of the daily bag limit from wholesale/retail dealers for their own use or for sale by a restaurant as prepared fish.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

The Declaration of Emergency - King Mackerel Commercial Season was the final item by Mr. Randy Pausina. The season will open on July 1 and will close when the Department is informed by

the National Marine Fisheries Service the quota has been reached. Commissioner Feltermann made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Busbice seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2002 COMMERCIAL KING MACKEREL SEASON

January 3, 2002

WHEREAS, the king mackerel fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and

WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U. S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore, and

WHEREAS, NMFS requests consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters, which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and

WHEREAS, the 2002 commercial king mackerel season in EEZ waters will open on July 1, 2002, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons by emergency rule and R.S. 49:967 allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to set finfish seasons and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto by emergency rule, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby establishes the 2002 season for

commercial harvest of king mackerel in Louisiana state waters to open at 12:01 a.m., July 1, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all applicable rules regarding the commercial king mackerel harvest including trip and size limits, established by the Commission shall be in effect during the open season hereby established, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed by NMFS that the commercial king mackerel quota for the Western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or is projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2003, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2003 commercial king mackerel season in Federal waters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also authorizes the Secretary to open an additional commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed that NMFS has opened an additional season and to close such season when he is informed that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2002 commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Commercial King Mackerel Season

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto by emergency rule, and R.S. 56:6(25)(a) and 56:326.3 which provide that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following season and trip limit for the commercial harvest of king mackerel in Louisiana state waters:

The commercial season for king mackerel in Louisiana state waters will open at 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2002 and remain open until the allotted portion of the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or is projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2003, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2003 commercial king mackerel season in Federal waters.

The Commission also authorizes the Secretary to open an additional commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed that NMFS has opened an additional season and to close such season when he is informed that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled.

Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of king mackerel by legally licensed recreational fishermen. Effective with any closure, no person shall commercially harvest, transport, purchase, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, barter, trade or sell king mackerel. Effective with the closure, no person shall possess king mackerel in excess of a daily bag limit. Provided however that fish in excess of the daily bag limit which were legally taken prior to the closure may be purchased, possessed, transported, and sold by a licensed wholesale/retail dealer if appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S.

56:306.6 are properly maintained. Those other than wholesale/retail dealers may purchase such fish in excess of the daily bag limit from wholesale/retail dealers for their own use or for sale by a restaurant as prepared fish.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

Chairman Gattle then asked Mr. Dave Moreland for the **Division Report on Deer Hunting Success**. Mr. Moreland began stating this has been a tough season with the main culprit being the weather. During the month of November, 25 of the 30 days had maximum temperatures between 72 and 84 degrees and this limits deer activity which results in poor hunter success. Looking at the WMA managed hunts, harvest was down about 600 deer as compared with the 10 year average. Also hunter effort was down about 3,000 from what it has been. Weather patterns will dictate what happens with deer. A lot of complaints are being received from hunters in Area 2. Area 1 and Area 6 should have a good season during the rest of January if the cold weather continued, added Mr. Moreland. The rut did occur in Areas 2 and 3 but was not seen by hunters because activity was occurring at night when it was cooler. Overall, the harvest will probably be down. Mr. Moreland then mentioned that timber companies in northwest Louisiana that are leasing their lands to hunting clubs are applying herbicides in conjunction with their pine timber management. This practice will "zap" the hardwood vegetation which is important food for deer during the spring and summer months. He emphasized that the hunting clubs should be aware that this type of management will not handle the numbers of deer that have been on their lands. Good news is reforestation is occurring along the Delta region of the State. Chairman Gattle explained how the use of herbicides are affecting the deer on his leased lands. Commissioner Busbice asked if any supplemental feeding for the spring and summer months could help? Mr. Moreland stated artificial feeding is very expensive and most hunting clubs can not afford this practice. Commissioner Stone commented he has heard of a poison that is more selective and allows for deer browse to grow. Mr. Moreland stated treatments with just arsenal allows for good growth of desirable food plants. Commissioner Stone asked if it would help to talk to the timber companies about this practice? Mr. Moreland felt it may or may not work. Concluding Mr. Moreland felt the weather has had a major influence on hunting success thus far. Commissioner Busbice commented the weather has not affected the dog season.

Mr. Tommy Prickett commended Mr. Dave Moreland and Mr. Larry Savage as well as the field staff who has lost lots of sleep collecting deer at night to document when breeding actually takes place in Louisiana. The study in deer hunting area 6 has just been completed and may result in changes to the structure for the upcoming year. Chairman Gattle asked Mr. Prickett if he had any comments on where the ducks may be? Mr. Prickett stated all of the states up the Flyway claim they do not have the ducks. Several biologists will fly the January survey beginning January 4 and hopefully they will find ducks. Commissioner Stone asked if the amount of water could dilute the duck count? Mr. Prickett stated it could diminish hunting success, but there are no reports of concentrations of ducks. The only two areas that have been consistent with good duck hunting reports this year are the mouth of the Mississippi River and the big delta at Atchafalaya Delta.

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **May 2002 Meeting** on Thursday, May 2, 2002 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

Chairman Gattle then asked for any **Public Comments** and none were heard.

There being no further business, Commissioner Denmon made a motion to **Adjourn** the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Kelly.

James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

JHJ:sch

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a smiling man wearing a FILA tank top. A woman's arm is visible next to him. The image has a grainy, high-contrast aesthetic.

Associated Press photo

Poussis advances Interfinals vs. Martin

— Mark Philippoussis, who the power on his serve, beat therlands at the Australian aships Thursday. rough the first set 6-0, then nigh eight of the last nine ch. in his eight service games, l game, and looked just as baseline and the net as he et up a quarterfinal match dd Martin. nforced absence for knee l he felt well-prepared for season after working with ens to strengthen his legs e I got here, and that's the worked hard and when you know you're going to play

going to come in," he said. "most of his serves and it's a tough match, but that's what

Sampras in the first round, and victory over left-hander

... who has won two of their
ill force him to play more
most any other opponent.

scheduled to play Spain on Thursday at the Burswood Dome, with the winner advancing to Saturday's final. After tests revealed Hewitt had the contagious virus, Australia had to default its matches, giving Spain a berth in the championship.

Both Spain and Australia were 2-0 going into Thursday's match.

Belgium, 2-0, plays the top-seeded United States and France takes on Italy on Friday to conclude the round-robin phase.

Thursday's match, between Argentina and Switzerland went to the deciding mixed doubles. Paola Suarez of Argentina defeated Miroslava Vavrinec 6-2, 3-6, 6-2 in women's singles before Roger Federer tied it for Switzerland with a 6-2, 6-3 win over Zabaleta.

Vavrinec and Federer then defeated Suarez and Zabaleta 6-3, 6-7 (3), 7-6 (10-4 in the super tiebreaker) to give Switzerland a 2-1 win.

■ **CAPRIATI WINS IN HONG KONG:** In Hong Kong, Jennifer Capriati won her opening match at the Hong Kong Ladies Challenge in just 34 minutes Thursday, routing Indonesia's Angelique Widjaja 6-0, 6-1.

Capriati will play Amanda Coetzer in today's semifinals. The other semifinal will be between Mary Pierce and Elena Dementieva, who beat Tamarine Tanasugarn 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

■ **CANAS, SANTORO ADVANCE TO QUARTERFINALS:** In Madras, India, top-seed Guillermo Canas advanced to the quarterfinals of the TATA Open, beating Ivo Karlovic 7-5, 6-2.

Third-seeded Fabrice Santoro defeated Irakli Labadze 6-2, 6-3 and will play Karol Kucera, who beat

By JOE MACALUSO

Advocate outdoors writer

Changing regulations and approving a handful of resolutions, declarations of emergency and notices of intent occupied most of Thursday's Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting.

Interest peaked, however, when state biologists were called to talk about ongoing deer and duck seasons.

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' Deer Study Leader David Moreland blamed warm weather for the first six weeks of most deer seasons for decreased number of white-tails showing up at check stations and skinning sheds around the state.

He said ongoing biological studies in State Deer Area 2, which takes most central and northern parishes showed that 25 of the 30 days at and after Thanksgiving Day had afternoon temperatures higher than 70 degrees.

"I guess we can say the overall lack of hunting success can be blamed on the weather," Moreland said.

He explained that the peak of the rut in several deer-hunting areas came during these warm conditions, and that bucks "were chasing does at night when it was more comfortable for them."

He added that a bumper crop of acorns kept deer in the woods rather than seeking out food plots, where hunters had taken stands.

Moreland held more positive news for the Capital City area hunters. The surrounding lands are in Deer Hunting Areas 1 and 6. These two areas have modern firearms seasons running to Jan. 20 and a special muzzleloader-only season through Jan. 27.

He said these areas have later rutting periods than do the other six deer areas and the recent cold snap could help hunters see more deer and salvage what otherwise is slipping up to be a sub-par season.

Duck hunters have had similar complaints.

Wildlife Division administrator Tom Prickett told the commission the only two consistently productive duck-hunting areas in the state are the Mississippi River and Atchafalaya River deltas.

"Everywhere, hunters are asking, 'Where are the ducks,' and I have to be honest with them and tell them I don't know," Prickett said. "We have talked to Stuttgart (a noted duck-hunting area in Arkansas) and they say the ducks aren't there yet."

"We're hoping that the cold weather will push ducks into the state," Prickett said. "We're going to fly our January survey starting Friday (today) and I told (state waterfowl biologist) Randy Myers not to come down until he finds the ducks."

The LDWF's December aerial survey showed 1.6 million ducks in the state, less than half the 3.2 million birds found in an "average" year.

The meeting's first 90 minutes contained several major votes.

First, a Notice of Intent was posted to change commercial mullet fishing regulations. It sets up new rules to allow the transfer of a commercial mullet permit to another commercial fisherman. As with all Notices of Intent, there is a 120-day public-

comment period before the rules will be ratified. Ratification is scheduled for the May 2 meeting in Baton Rouge.

Four other votes covered fishing regulations. In short order, the LVFC removed Lake Concordia from the state's Trophy Lake Program, which means bass anglers no longer have to abide by the restrictive 15-19-inch slot limits on black bass. Bass-measuring inside those limits had to be returned to the water while Concordia was deemed a trophy lake. Now, the lake has a 10-bass per day limit with no size restrictions. Concordia was among the first lakes in the 1988-instituted Trophy Lakes Program, and state biologist Gary Tilyou told the LVFC that the restrictions did not increase the size of the bass in the lake.

The other three fisheries actions dealt with Declarations of Emergency covering offshore species. Ratified were an April 21-Oct. 31 recreational red snapper season, a commercial red snapper season that opens Feb. 1 and a commercial king mackerel season opener for July 1.

The LWFC also approved a resolution declaring 28,000 acres as "Natural Areas" on 21 wildlife management areas, a move that sets aside these plots for old-growth forests and research areas. State program director Kenny Ribbeck said the resolution limits forestry activity in the designated plots though it does not limit other uses such as hunting, birding and hiking.

Finally, a Notice of Intent was approved to revise regulations governing the 28 existing and future hunting preserves in the state. The focus was businesses that cater to hunting: birds, notably quail, chukkar, pheasant and mallards.

The LWFC also received a report from LDWF' undersecretary Jim Patton on the department's Strategic Plan, and the strategies the LDWF is using to enhance and maintain its mission in state government.

The LWFC also learned that state enforcement agents issued 1,067 citations in December. Most citations involved deer and duck hunting violations.

It also approved a May 2 meeting date during which the opening-day for the spring inshore shrimp seasons are scheduled to be approved for the state's three shrimp zones.

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COMMISSION MEETING
ROLL CALL

Thursday, January 3, 2002
Baton Rouge, LA
Wildlife & Fisheries Building

	Attended	Absent
Tom Gattle (Chairman)	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
Jerry Stone	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
Bill Busbice	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
Tom Kelly	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
Wayne Sagrera	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
Terry Denmon	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
Lee Felterman	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>

Mr. Chairman:

There are 7 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.

Secretary Jenkins is also present.

AGENDA

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LA
January 3, 2002
10:00 AM

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of December 6, 2001
3. Revised Strategic Plan Presentation - Jim Patton
4. Notice of Intent - Harvest of Mullet - Janis Landry
5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/December - Keith LaCaze
6. Resolution - Adopt Wildlife Management Areas Natural Areas - Kenny Ribbeck
7. Notice of Intent - Amend Hunting Preserve Regulations - Fred Kimmel
8. Rule Ratification - Lake Concordia Black Bass Harvest Regulations - Bennie Fontenot
9. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Recreational Season - Randy Pausina
10. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Commercial Season - Randy Pausina
11. Declaration of Emergency - King Mackerel Commercial Season - Randy Pausina
12. DIVISION REPORT - Deer Hunting Success - Dave Moreland
13. Set May 2002 Meeting Date
14. Public Comments
15. Adjournment

AGENDA

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BATON ROUGE, LA

January 3, 2002

10:00 AM

- ✓1. Roll Call
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- ✓7. Notice of Intent - Amend Hunting Preserve Regulations - Fred Kimmel
- ✓8. Rule Ratification - Lake Concordia Black Bass Harvest Regulations - ~~Bennie Fontenot~~ *Harry Tilyou*
- ✓9. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Recreational Season - Randy Pausina
- ✓10. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Commercial Season - Randy Pausina
- ✓11. Declaration of Emergency - King Mackerel Commercial Season - Randy Pausina
- ✓12. DIVISION REPORT - Deer Hunting Success - Dave Moreland
- ✓13. Set May 2002 Meeting Date
- ✓14. Public Comments
15. Adjournment

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries STRATEGIC PLAN

For the Five-Year Period ending June 30th, 2007

Revised September, 2001

James H. Jenkins, Jr. – Secretary (225) 765-2623

James L. Patton - Undersecretary (225) 765-2860

Philip E. Bowman - Assistant Secretary of Wildlife (225) 765-2806

John E. Roussel – Assistant Secretary of Fisheries (225) 765-2801

Introduction

- The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is the state agency responsible for management of the state's renewable natural resources including all wildlife and all aquatic life. The control and supervision of these resources are assigned to the Department in the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, Article IX, Section 7 and in revised statutes under Title 36 and Title 56. Responsibilities related to enforcement of boating safety laws are also covered in Title 34, Chapter 4, Part IV.
- Prudent stewardship of the state's renewable natural resources contributes significantly to the quality of life of the state's citizens and to the economic well-being of the state.
- LDWF serves almost two million direct users of the resources and countless others who benefit indirectly.
- LDWF supports and enjoys a strong work ethic in its employees and incorporates the use of good science, accurate information, and technology in carrying out its mission.
- At LDWF we are continually looking for ways to improve the way we manage resources to ensure their sustainability and availability for all users now and in the future.
- This five-year strategic plan focuses on specific areas for change or improvement; it does not cover all agency activities. Due to a lack of growth in revenue and a lack of new sources of revenue, annual budgets are generally "standstill" and allow only for continuation of operations.
- LDWF does, however, commit to performing those operations more effectively and efficiently - always looking for better ways to do things and improve the services we provide.

Introduction (continued)

The agency/department is organized into four appropriated budget units (offices):

- the Office of Secretary,
- the Office of Management and Finance,
- the Office of Wildlife, and
- the Office of Fisheries.

Funds are appropriated to these budget units by program. Those programs are:

- Management and Finance,
- Auxiliary (*Louisiana Conservationist* magazine),
- Administrative,
- Enforcement,
- Marketing (Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board),
- Wildlife and
- Fisheries.

Introduction (continued)

This plan is structured as follows:

- At the department level - Vision, Mission, Philosophy, Goals (one for each program).
- At the program level - Mission, Departmental Goal, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Indicators.

Introduction (concluded)

In the department's annual operational plans, relevant statistics are reported in "general performance tables". This would include such things as:

- numbers of licenses issued,
- harvests of specific species,
- values of commercial harvests, and
- rankings.

These types of statistics are not considered to be measures of program performance and do not appear as performance indicators in this strategic plan; however, they are reported annually because of the general interest of the legislature and the public.

There is minimal duplication of effort in the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries due to careful organization of programs and activities and a focus on cooperation and collaboration between programs. Within this plan, each program has unique goals, objectives, and strategies - all directed toward the successful accomplishment of our mission of overall conservation of the state's wildlife and fisheries resources. In some situations, programs perform similar activities to accomplish their goals. An example of this would be the construction and/or maintenance of boat ramps. This is not, however, a duplication of effort, since the Wildlife Program does this on Wildlife Management Areas and the Fisheries Program does this on other public water bodies. Another example demonstrating overlap of "interest" rather than "effort" would be the paddlefish situation. This species is classified as a threatened species - the list of these being maintained by a section within the Wildlife Program. However, the repopulation of this species through work at fish hatcheries is being performed by the Fisheries Program.

Mission, Vision and Philosophy of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

- **Mission of LDWF:** The mission of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is to manage, conserve and promote wise utilization of Louisiana's renewable fish and wildlife resources and their supporting habitats through replenishment, protection, enhancement, research, development and education for the benefit of current and future generations; to provide opportunities for knowledge of and use and enjoyment of these resources; and to provide a safe environment for the users of these resources.
- **Vision of LDWF:** Louisiana will be the premier state for wildlife and fisheries management.
- **Philosophy of LDWF:** The Department's mission will be accomplished in a fair and equitable fashion using science-based information, open communication and collaboration. The policies and actions of the Department will be developed and implemented so as to encourage teamwork between its employees and to promote the public's trust and respect.

Program Mission Statements

- Management & Finance: The purpose of the Management & Finance program is to perform the financial, socioeconomic research, public information, licensing, program evaluation, planning and general support service functions for the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries so that its mission of conservation of renewable natural resources is accomplished.
- Louisiana Conservationist magazine: The purpose of the auxiliary program is to produce and distribute the *Louisiana Conservationist* magazine for the department of Wildlife and Fisheries so that citizens will be informed and knowledgeable about the state's renewable natural resources and the department's stewardship efforts.
- Secretary – Administration: The mission of the Administration program is to provide executive leadership and legal support to all department programs and staff.
- Secretary – Marketing: The purpose of the Seafood promotion and Marketing Board is to give assistance to the state's seafood industry through product promotion and market development in order to enhance the economic well-being of the industry and of the state.

Program Mission Statements

- Secretary – Enforcement: The purpose of the Enforcement Program is to execute and enforce the laws, rules and regulations of the state relative to wildlife and fisheries for the purpose of conservation of renewable natural resources and relative to boating and outdoor safety for the continued use and enjoyment by current and future generations.
- Wildlife: The purpose of the Wildlife Program is to provide wise stewardship of the state's wildlife and habitats, to maintain biodiversity, including pant and animal species of special concern, and to provide outdoor opportunities for present and future generations to engender a greater appreciation of the natural environment.
- Fisheries: The purpose of the Fisheries program is to ensure that living aquatic resources are sustainable for present and future generations of Louisiana citizens by providing access and scientific management.

Goal I (Office of Management & Finance)

To increase our capacity to provide the most effective and efficient services, enforce compliance in all department programs and promote good customer service and increase the public visibility of the department.

- Objective 1: To implement sound financial practices and fiscal controls as demonstrated by having no “repeat” legislative audit findings.
- Objective 2: Ensure that all programs in the department are provided support services which enable them to accomplish their goals and objectives.
- Objective 3: To achieve at least a 7-day turnaround in processing mailed commercial license applications and boat registration transactions.
- Objective 4: To increase the public’s awareness of the department’s management of the state’s wildlife and aquatic resources by conducting new and expanded public information campaigns during this five-year planning period.

Goal II (Office of Management & Finance - Auxiliary)

That the general public, including the department's customers and stakeholders, will have an understanding of the importance of natural resource management and how it contributes to the economic well-being of the state and the overall quality of life of its citizens.

- Objective: To increase the circulation and readership of the Louisiana Conservationist magazine resulting in a larger "audience" and enhanced public awareness and ensuring that the circulation base is viable and can sustain the production of the magazine.

Goal III (Office of the Secretary - Administration)

That all programs will operate efficiently and effectively through sound planning and decision-making resulting in sustainability of the state's renewable natural resources.

- Objective: To ensure that the objectives of all department programs are achieved.

Goal IV (Office of the Secretary - Enforcement)

To effectively and efficiently manage available resources to achieve greater compliance with wildlife and fisheries and boating statutes.

- Objective 1: By June 30th, 2007, the Enforcement program will achieve a 2% reduction in the number of boating accidents per 100,000 registered boats.
- Objective 2: by June 30th, 2007, the Enforcement Program will increase public contacts by 2%.
- Objective 3: By June 30th, 2007, the Enforcement Program will decrease the number of hunting accidents to 5 per 100,000 licensed hunters.

Goal V (Office of the Secretary - Marketing)

To create brand loyalty for Louisiana seafood products resulting in increased consumption and enhanced economic value of the industry.

- Objective: to increase the total economic impact of the seafood industry on the state's economy from the 1999 base year by 1% real growth over a five-year period.

Goal VI – Office of Wildlife

To enhance and protect the habitat necessary to maintain the state's species diversity and optimum distribution and densities of wildlife populations, and to increase the opportunities for the citizens of the state to enjoy their outdoor experiences.

- Objective 1: To provide wise stewardship on 100% of our Wildlife Management Area and Refuge system's land including performing maintenance or access enhancements on at least 8% of the land base and 90% of the road/trail areas each year through FY 2006-2007.
- Objective 2: To increase the number of acres of private lands for which technical assistance to enhance wildlife habitat is provided by 5% by 2007.
- Objective 3: To annually exceed by 1% the long-term (1990-99) national trend of resident and non-resident hunting license holders (which is -0.5% annually) through the year 2007.
- Objective 4: Annually achieve at least acre-for-acre, in-kind mitigation or equivalent compensation for all unavoidable damages to fish and wildlife habitat resulting from projects impacting regulated wetlands and riparian wildlife habitat.

Goal VII (Office of Fisheries)

To improve our ability to manage living aquatic resources through enhancement and through more efficient and effective data collection, analysis and regulation, and to improve access to those resources.

Objective 1: Ensure that Louisiana's major marine fish stocks are not over-fished.

Objective 2: Administer a leasing system for oyster water bottoms such that 99% of all leases result in no legal challenges related to the leasing system and manage public reefs to fulfill 100% of the industry's seed oyster demand and make at least one area available for sack oyster harvest on the public seed grounds.

Objective 3: To ensure that all species of sport and commercial freshwater fish are in good condition in at least 91% of all public lakes over 500 acres.

Objective 4: To treat at least 36,000 acres of water bodies to control undesirable aquatic vegetation.

Objective 5: To increase the number of boat ramps improved or constructed from an average of one acre per year to an average of three per year by 2006/2007.

Management & Finance Strategies

- **Maintain current job descriptions and procedures manuals on all positions in the programs.**
- **Cooperate with the department's internal auditor and other auditors to develop and implement policies and procedures and corrective actions.**
- **Maintain written procedures on all functions relating to financial practices and fiscal controls and communicate these to all applicable employees.**
- **Conduct in-service training for all functions which we regulate and manage.**
- **Promote continuing education for all staff.**
- **Conduct process evaluations to improve the flow and timeliness of work products.**
- **Maintain an adequate level of staffing.**
- **Educate staff on the department's established Customer Service Standards.**
- **Enhance recruitment and training of staff (in license section).**
- **Continue to make most efficient use of staff by consolidating functions and cross-training.**
- **Investigate use of the internet for transacting license/registration business.**
- **Develop a more marketable format for a radio show.**
- **Expand the audience for a radio show.**
- **Produce audio and/ or video information features.**
- **Promote the use of features by cable systems and schools.**
- **Get media to cover and highlight department activities.**
- **Develop a method for measuring the public's awareness and the effectiveness of the (media) program.**

Louisiana Conservationist Strategies

- Implement an 'on-line magazine' on the internet - not the full magazine, but would include 'teaser blurbs' and articles designed to generate on-line subscriptions.
- Expand news-stand sales of the magazine.
- Piggy-back subscription order forms for mailing from the office of motor Vehicles.
- Develop a method of measuring the level of awareness of the public.
- Expand the readership to include non-traditional interest groups.
- Identify benchmark prospects, such as other agency or other state magazine units, and review best practices to implement in DWF.

Administration Strategies

- **Plan and prioritize for the allocation of financial resources.**
- **Encourage staff empowerment and teamwork.**
- **Support partnerships with other entities.**

Enforcement Strategies

- **Increase high visibility patrols in areas where accident rates are highest.**
- **Work to pass legislation requiring mandatory education and operator licensing.**
- **Increase staffing levels in geographic regions where most boater and hunter activities occur.**
- **Increase field patrol hours.**
- **Increase the number of Hunter Education courses offered.**
- **Increase efforts to get Hunter Education courses approved in school curriculums.**
- **Increase the number of volunteer instructors.**

Marketing Strategies

- **Participate in trade shows and generate trade leads.**
- **Conduct product promotions and special events.**
- **Implement educational programs such as television broadcasts, study units for teachers and displays at rural museums.**
- **Conduct advertising campaigns that include ads in print and electronic media with national, regional and local distribution.**
- **Educate state and national legislators about industry issues.**
- **Implement campaigns on 'tag lines'.**
- **Measure brand recognition and awareness.**
- **Implement a news service program to include news releases and radio announcements distributed statewide and nationally.**
- **Improve the quality and usefulness of the program's web site.**

Wildlife Strategies

- **Annually assess and implement management plans developed for each Wildlife Management Area and Refuge.**
- **Develop and maintain partnerships with various state and federal agencies as well as conservation organizations, private business and individuals to facilitate management programs.**
- **Provide technical assistance to private landowners.**
- **Serve on technical advisory committees of other state and federal agencies as well as conservation organizations that influence land management practices.**
- **Support wildlife friendly legislation that has wide application.**
- **Annually recommend hunting seasons, bag limits and regulations that provide optimal opportunity and sustainable game populations.**
- **Provide information relative to hunting and game populations as requested by the public and media.**
- **Promote hunting on a statewide and local level through educational programs, news releases, newsletters and articles in popular magazines and technical journals.**
- **Receive, log in, review and comment on all public notices from wetland regulatory agencies and make recommendations for mitigative actions designed to avoid, reduce or compensate for damages to fish and wildlife resources and habitat.**
- **Work with federal and state regulatory agencies on major projects which impact fish and wildlife resources and habitat by conducting joint habitat evaluations with those agencies and formulating mitigation recommendations, which will be mandatory.**
- **Assist in the development and operation of mitigation banks.**
- **Monitor the state's Natural and Scenic River System to prevent unauthorized uses, initiate enforcement and corrective action against unauthorized activities and to control impacts to the streams through the established permitting system, which includes mitigation requirements.**

Fisheries Strategies

- Enhance the collection of biological and environmental data associated with marine fish and habitat resources from the state's major coastal bay systems and territorial sea.
- Develop indices of abundance for age-based stock assessments using enhanced fishery-independent data.
- Improve the accuracy of and develop new stock assessments by enhancing fishery-dependent information collected from the harvesters of the resource to develop area -specific harvests.
- Prepare and update management plans for major marine species to keep up-to-date with new research findings to improve the accuracy and develop new stock assessments.
- Coordinate management of inter-jurisdictional fisheries with the other Gulf states and the federal government to improve our collective knowledge of species of concern and to continue the development of innovative stock assessments techniques.
- Conserve, protect, restore and enhance marine fish habitat in cooperation with other state and federal agencies that share public trust responsibilities for those resources.
- Prepare recommendations to the Louisiana Wildlife And Fisheries Commission and the Louisiana Legislature; promulgate, administer and enforce rules and regulations as provided for in law; and administer statutorily authorized permit programs.
- Promulgate a harvest grid area system for oyster lease production information and collect production information from leaseholders.
- Streamline processing procedures for increased numbers of renewal lease applications expected because of coastal restoration restrictions on lease time periods.
- Manage and maintain the public reefs to produce seed and sacking oysters.

More Fisheries Strategies

- Enhance the collection of fishery information from major freshwater lakes.
- Supplement public waters with sport fish and species of concern in support of management plans.
- Ensure that aquacultural activities result in no adverse effects upon native fish population in Louisiana.
- Coordinate management of inter-jurisdictional fisheries with the other Gulf states and federal government.
- Administer statutorily authorized permit programs.
- Develop management plans for any aquatic resources that may be of special concern.
- Increase angler participation by providing technical assistance to private pond owners.
- Determine statewide infestations of problematic aquatic plants (water hyacinth, hydrilla, salvinia, alligator weed, etc.).
- Investigate aquatic vegetation infestations in selected public lakes.
- Perform maintenance and control operations.
- Increase local government awareness of Department's boating access projects through direct correspondence.
- Reduce time for project initiation by increasing information to project sponsors.
- Closely monitor federal funds available for projects to maximize utilization of boating access funds.

You can follow our progress reports!

- Go to <http://www.state.la.us/opb/lapas/lapas.html>
- LDWF is department 16. You can check on all other agencies of Louisiana's state government here, too.

Your comments are welcome!

Contact J.L. Patton at patton_jl@wlf.state.la.us or
Wynnette Kees at kees_w@wlf.state.la.us

Mailing address for the department is

P.O. Box 98000

Baton Rouge, LA 70879

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to promulgate rules for the transfer of a mullet permit in accordance with R.S. 56:333.H.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

§343. Rules for Harvest of Mullet

* * *

E. 4. ~~Any person convicted of any offense involving fisheries laws or regulations shall forfeit any permit or license issued to commercially take mullet and shall be forever barred from receiving any permit or license to commercially take mullet.~~
Notwithstanding LAC 76:VII.343.E.2, the department, upon application from an individual who is currently permitted to commercially take mullet, may transfer a valid mullet permit under the following requirements and conditions:

a. The transferee must possess and provide the department his/her social security number.

b. The transferee must possess a valid commercial fishing license and shall provide proof that he derived more than

50 percent of his earned income from the legal capture and sale of seafood species in the calendar year immediately prior to the year of application. Proof shall be for the tax year immediately prior to the application for transfer, and shall be in the form of an IRS transcript stamped by the local office, plus a copy of the applicant's personal file copy of his or her completed tax return for that year including all schedules and Form W-2's.

c. The transferee shall not currently possess a mullet permit nor have been permanently barred from the mullet fishery.

d. The transferor and the transferee each must certify that there shall be no financial gain realized for the transfer of such license or permit in accordance with Department guidelines.

e. Any mullet permit found to have been transferred for financial gain shall be rendered void, shall immediately be surrendered to the department, and shall not be reissued.

5. In the case of a proven physical hardship, the department, upon written request from an individual who is currently permitted to commercially take mullet, may transfer a valid mullet permit into the name of the spouse, parent/legal guardian, or child/legal dependent of such person under the following requirements and conditions:

a. A mullet permit holder shall make a written request that includes the name, address and social security number of both the permit holder and the person to whom the license is requested to be transferred and shall set forth in detail the reasons justifying the request.

b. The mullet permit holder must present documentation sufficient to prove relationship as being the spouse, parent/legal guardian, or child/legal dependent, between the permit holder and the person to whom the permit is to be transferred. Examples of documents tending to establish such proof would include marriage license, birth certificate and/or judgement of legal guardianship.

c. The mullet permit holder must provide a signed statement from the treating physician setting forth the specific nature and extent of the disability together with a statement that the condition prevents participation in commercial fishing activities.

F. A valid mullet permit may only be transferred from a mullet permit holder who has no pending mullet charges for violating any provisions of R.S. 56:333 or any Commission rule or regulation adopted pursuant to R.S. 56:333 after August 15, 2001. The provisions of R.S. 56:333.F shall apply to permit transfer recipients. Permits under suspension or revocation shall not be transferable during any suspension or revocation period.

G. Any person who transfers a mullet permit shall be precluded thereafter from obtaining a mullet permit whether by transfer or other method.

FH. General Provisions. Effective with the closure of the commercial season for mullet, there shall be a prohibition of the commercial take from Louisiana waters, and the possession of mullet on the waters of the state with commercial gear in possession. Nothing shall prohibit the possession, sale, barter or exchange off the water of mullet legally taken during any open period provided that those who are required to do so shall maintain appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.4 and R.S. 56:345 and be properly licensed in accordance with R.S. 56:303 or R.S. 56:306.

GI. In addition, all provisions of R.S. 56:333(C) are hereby adopted and incorporated into this rule.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(25)(a), R.S. 56:325.1, R.S. 56:333 and Act 1316 of the 1995 Regular Legislative Session, R.S. 56:333.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 18:1420 (December 1992) amended LR 21:37 (January 1995), LR 22:236 (March 1996), LR 24:359 (February 1998), LR 26:2332 (October 2000), LR 28:

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and

the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Janis Landry, License Section, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, March 7, 2002.

In accordance with Act#1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT

DECEMBER 2001

REGION 1:MINDEN
18 Agent positions

PARISHES: BIENVILLE, BOSSIER,
CADDO, CLAIBORNE,
WEBSTER

TOTAL CASES	83
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Boating
5	Angling W/O A Resident License
1	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
3	Hunt W/O A Resident License
8	Hunt From Moving Vehicle
1	Hunt W/Unplugged Gun
1	Hunt Wild Quadrupeds Illegal Hours
5	Hunt, Stand, Or Loiter From Public Road
1	Hunt Ducks W/O State Duck Stamp
3	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
4	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
13	Hunt Deer From Public Road
1	Take Illegal Deer Open Season
1	Field Possession Deer Meat W/O A Tag
5	Operate ATV On Public Road
3	Hunt Ducks W/O Federal Stamp

3	Hunt MGB Illegal Hours
4	Using Lead Shot In Area Designated As Steel Shot Only
2	Hunt Ducks Closed Season
1	Possession Over Limit OF Ducks
2	Hunt MGB W/O State Stamp
1	Illegal Possession OF Marijuana
4	Littering
1	Operate ATV On Public Road
7	Discharge Firearm From Public Road

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 0	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
8 rifles, 1 scope, 2 black bass, 5 ducks, 4-270 cal. Rifle hulls, 2 deer, 1 ice chest, 1 bag marijuana, 1 marijuana cigarette, 1 pack cigarette papers.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 1

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
3	Boating
0	Commercial Fishing

16	Federal Migratory
4	Littering
9	Miscellaneous
6	Recreational Fishing
45	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings
TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

REGION 2:MONROE
20 Agent positions

**PARISHES: E. CARROLL, JACKSON,
 LINCOLN,MOREHOUSE
 QUACHITA, RICHLAND
 UNION, W. CARROLL**

TOTAL CASES	114
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Buy or Sell Deer Meat
6	Boating
1	Discharge Firearm From Public Road
4	Fail To Wear Hunter's Orange
5	Hunt, Stand or Loiter From Public Road
4	Hunt Deer Illegal Methods
23	Hunt Deer From A Public Road
17	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
22	Hunt From Moving Vehicle
1	Hunt W/O Resident Hunting License
1	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
1	Hunting With Unplugged Gun
1	Hunting With Muzzleloader License
4	Hunt On DMAP Without Permit From Owner/Lessee
3	Not Abiding By Rules and Regulations On WMA
5	Possession Of Illegally Taken Deer

2	Take Or Posses Non-game Bird
3	Take Illegal Deer In Open Season
1	Take Over Limit Of Deer
4	Criminal Trespass
1	Take Bobcat Illegally
1	Failure To Mark/Tag Nets
1	Take Commercial Fish Without Commercial License
1	Take Commercial Fish Without Commercial Gear License

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 2

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	No Running Lights
1	Improper Boat Numbers

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
1- Rem. 742 Rifle, 1- Steven Model 820B 12ga. Shotgun, 4- 30-06 cal cart. , 1-Doe Deer, 1-15 pt. Deer Rack, 1 -Deer Cape, 1- Deer Jawbone, 2 – Spotlights, 2 - .22cal. Rifles, 1- 870 rem. Shotgun, 1- .243 cal. Rifle, 1- Win. 16. Ga. Shotgun, 1- Doe Deer, 1- Mossburg 12 ga. Shotgun, 1- Win 270 cal. Rile w/ Scope, 5 - Deer, 1- Rem. 700 Rifle.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 2

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
6	Boating
3	Commercial Fishing
2	Federal Migratory
-0-	Littering
4	Miscellaneous
-0-	Recreational Fishing
99	State Hunting/Trapping
2	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
20	Public Assistance (Assisting Stranded Motorists and Boaters)

REGION 3:ALEXANDRIA**PARISHES:AVOYELLES, GRANT****26 Agent positions****NATCHITOCHE****RAPIDES, SABINE****VERNON, WINN**

TOTAL CASES	125
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
8	Boating
1	Take Game Fish Illegally
1	Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession
1	Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
4	Hunt MGB Illegal Hours
1	Possess Over Limit Of Ducks
1	Using Lead Shot In Steel Shot Area
1	Take Grebe – No Season
1	Hunt MGB W/Unplugged Gun
2	Hunt Deer Closed Area
1	Hunt Or Take Deer Illegal Hours
6	Hunt From Moving Vehicle
2	Possession Of Illegally Taken Deer
2	Take Illegal Deer Open Season
14	Fail To Wear Hunters Orange
2	Hunt Deer Illegal Method

3	Hunt Wild Quadrupeds Illegal Hours
16	Hunt Deer From Public Road
9	Hunt, Stand, Loiter From Public Road
6	Hunt W/O Resident License
7	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
3	Hunt W/O Non-Resident License
2	Hunt W/O Non-Resident Big Game License
2	Illegal Spotlighting From Public Road
1	Hunt With Unplugged Gun
25	Not Abiding By WMA Rules & Regulations
1	Illegal Possession Of Drugs Or Marijuana
2	Operate ATV On Public Road

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 16	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Boating
4	Angling W/O A License In Possession
6	Fail To Wear Hunter's Orange
3	Hunt W/O License In Possession
1	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License In Possession

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
6 ducks, 2 grebes, 2 doe deer, 5 crappie, 2 bream, 1 white bass, 2 Shotguns, 4 rifles, 1 pistol, 1 spotlight, 4 hoop nets w/leads.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 3

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
8	Boating
3	Commercial Fishing
8	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
3	Miscellaneous
0	Recreational Fishing
103	State Hunting/Trapping
16	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

REGION 4:FERRIDAY
24 Agent positions

PARISHES: CALDWELL, CATAHOULA
CONCORDIA, FRANKLIN
LASALLE, MADISON, TENSAS

TOTAL CASES	77
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Angling W/o A Resident a resident license
1	Hunting W/O Resident License
5	Failure To Abide By Commission Rules
9	Hunting From A Moving Vehicle
5	Hunt Wild Quadrupeds Illegal Hours
4	Hunt From A Public Road
1	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
3	Hunt Or Take Deer Illegal Hours
3	Hunt Or Take Deer From Public Road
2	Hunt Or Take Illegal Deer Open Season
5	Failure To Comply With Hunter Orange Regulations
1	Selling Alligator Meat Illegally
1	Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season
2	Hunt Ducks Or Geese Without Duck Stamp
30	Not Abiding By Rules And Regs. On WMA
2	Use WMA W/O Permit

1	Littering
1	Possession Of Firearm Of Convicted Felon

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 4	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Fishing w/o a resident pole license
1	Failure to comply with hunters orange regulations
1	Failure to comply with PFD requirements
1	Not abiding by rules and regulations on wma

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
55 lbs Alligator Meat; 1 Rabbit; 4 Deer; 5 Shotguns; 2 Rifles; 12 dmap tags

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 4

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Boating
0	Commercial Fishing
2	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
3	Miscellaneous
1	Recreational Fishing

70	State Hunting/Trapping
4	Written Warnings
TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
5	Public Assistance

REGION 5: LAKE CHARLES
23 Agent positions

PARISHES: BEAUREGARD, CALCASIEU
EVANGELINE, ALLEN,
CAMERON, ACADIA,
VERMILION, JEFF DAVIS

TOTAL CASES	76
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
7	Boating
2	Take Or Poss. Undersize Black Drum
2	Take Or Poss. Comm. Fish W/O Vessel Lic
1	Hntg. W/O Non. Res. Hntg. Lic.
4	Hntg. From Moving Vehicle/Or Aircraft
2	Hntg. W/Unplugged Or Silencer Gun
4	Hntg. Wild Quadrupeds And Or Wild Birds Illegal Hours
3	Hunt, Stand, Loiter From Public Road
2	Take Rabbits By Mashing Weeds
1	Hntg. W/O Non Res Big Game Lic
6	Hunt Or Take Deer From Public Road
1	Hunt Or Take Deer Or Bear W/Illegal Weapons
4	Hntg. Ducks/Or Geese W/O Federal Stamp
1	Hntg. MGB W/Unplugged Gun
4	Hntg. MGB Illegal Hours

2	Hntg. MGB From Moving Motorboat
4	Using Lead Shot In Area Designated As Steel Shot Only
1	Poss. O/L Of Ducks
1	Taking Ibis – No Season
3	Hntg. MGB W/O State Stamp
3	Hntg. MGB W/O State Hntg. License
1	Federal – Aiding and Abetting
2	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
1	Illegal Spotlighting From Public Road
1	Other Than Wildlife/Fisheries Charges
1	Operate ATV On Public Road
1	Obtain License By Fraud
1	Flight From An Officer
2	Angling W/O A License
2	Hntg. W/O A. Res. License
2	Hntg. W/O Res. Big Game License
2	Failure To Wear Hunter's Orange
2	Hntg. W/O Muzzleloader License - Resident

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	7	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1		Angling W/O A License
4		Failure To Wear Hunter's Orange
1		Failure To Display Valid Cert. Decal
1		Failure To Comply W/ PFD Req.

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
13 ducks; 1 ibis; 4 doves; 5 rabbits; 3 sacks of oyster rtw; 2 u/s black drum rtw; 1 res. big game license; 1 unplugged gun statement form; 3 q beams; 3 duck calls; 1- 5 gallon bucket; 1 camo hot, 53 bullets, rifle; 1 shotgun; 1 carbine gun; 1 ziploc bag of soybean sample.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 5

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
7	Boating
2	Commercial Fishing
24	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
5	Miscellaneous
4	Recreational Fishing
32	State Hunting/Trapping
7	Written Warnings
2	WMA

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
1	Public Assistance

REGION 6:OPELOUSAS
24 Agent positions

PARISHES: IBERIA, IBERVILLE,
PT.COUPÉE,LAFAYETTE
ST.MARTIN,IBERIA
IBERVILLE,W.B.R.

TOTAL CASES	90
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
32	Boating
5	Angling W/O Basic Resident License
4	Fail To Wear Hunter's Orange
3	Hunt W/O State Duck Stamp
3	Hunt MGB Over Baited Area
3	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
13	Hunt Raccoons Illegally
1	Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
1	Obtain License By Fraud
1	Littering
1	Driving W/O Operator's License
1	Criminal Mischief
2	Hunt W/O Federal Duck Stamp
2	Hunt W/O Basic Hunting License
4	Hunt MGB Illegal Hours

3	Using Leadshot In An Area Designated As Steel Shot Only
1	Possess Overlimit Of Ducks
1	Take/Possess Spotted Fawn
1	Fail To Comply With Permit Regulations
2	Hunt Or Take Deer Illegally From Boat
2	Hunt Or Take Deer Illegal Hours Or With Artificial Light
2	Hunt From Moving Vehicle
2	Hunt, Stand, Loiter From Public Road

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 3	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Angling W/O A License In Possession
1	Hunt W/O Residence License

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
4 buckshot shells, 1 headlight, 1 shotgun, 1 spotted fawn, 3 wood ducks, 18 leadshot shells, 1 tree stand, 1 backpack, 1 flashlight, 2 rifles, 35 raccoons, 5 doves, 2 bait samples, 1 resident hunting license, 1 big game license, 1 Louisiana Duck Stamp, 1 WMA hunting permit

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 6

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
32	Boating
1	Commercial Fishing
16	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
6	Miscellaneous
5	Recreational Fishing
29	State Hunting/Trapping
3	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
1	Public Assistance

REGION 7:BATON ROUGE**22 Agent positions**

**PARISHES: ASCENSION, E.B. ROUGE,
E. FELICIANA, LIVINGSTON,
ST. HELENA, ST. TAMMANY,
TANGIPAHOA, WASHINGTON,
W. FELICIANA**

TOTAL CASES	141
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
18	Boating
6	Angling W/O Basic Res. License
12	Hunt W/O Basic Res. License
9	Hunt W/O Big Game License
14	Failure To Wear Hunters Orange
1	Hunt W/Unplugged Shotgun
18	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
13	Hunt Deer From Moving Vehicle
16	Hunt Deer From Public Road
1	Take Illegal Deer Open Season
3	Hunt Deer Illegal Methods
2	Hunt Deer w/Illegal Weapon
1	Violate Hunter Safety Regulations
1	Discharge Firearm From A Public Road
13	Violate R&R on W.M.A

1	Resisting Officer By Flight
2	Use Load Shot In Area Designated As Steel Shot Only
1	Selling F.B.A W/O Non-Resident License
1	Littering
1	Violate Rules and Regulations On State Land—Scenic River Violation
1	Selling For Re-Sale Un-Tagged Oysters
1	Possession Un-Tagged Oysters 10%+
1	Filling False Public Record
1	Injuring Public Record
1	Attempted Felony Theft
1	Fail To Maintain Records
1	Contributing To The Delinquency Of A Minor

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 5	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Boating
2	Violate R&R of W.M.A
1	Angling W/O Res. License
1	Failure To Wear Hunters Orange

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION	
4 shotguns, 2 deer, 6 rifles, 1 light, 38 raccoons, 7 sacks of oysters returned-to-water, and 1-45 caliber handgun, 7—Sacks Oysters (Returned To The Water).	

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 7

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
18	Boating
2	Commercial Fishing
2	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
7	Miscellaneous
6	Recreational Fishing
105	State Hunting/Trapping
5	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
1	Public Assistance Helped Overturn A Sunk Boat

REGION 8:NEW ORLEANS
18 Agent positions

PLAQUEMINE, ST. BERNARD,
ORLEANS, JEFFERSON
ST. CHARLES

TOTAL CASES	121	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION	
21	Boating	
25	Angling W/O A License	
10	Angling W/O A Non-Resident License	
6	Angling W/O Saltwater Lic.	
3	Angling W/O Saltwater Lic Non-Resident	
2	Take/Poss. O/L Red Drum	
4	Poss. O/L of Red Drum In Excess of 27" (Recreational)	
3	Take or Poss. Undersized Red Drum(Recreational)	
4	Take or Poss. Undersized Black Drum(Recreational)	
1	Take/Poss. O/L Spotted Seatrout	
1	Fail To have Commercial Lic. In Poss	
1	Take or Sell Commercial Fish W/O Comm. Lic.	
2	Take Commercial Fish W/O Comm. Gear Lic.	
3	Take or Poss. Commercial Fish W/O Vessel Lic.	
1	Shed soft-shell Crabs without shedding License	
4	Sell and/or Buy fish without a Retail Seafood Dealers License	

2	Transport W/O Required Lic
1	Destroy Legal Crab Traps or Removing Contents
1	Tending Crab Traps Illegal Hours
1	Failure to Tag Sacked or Containerized Oysters
1	Fail to Land Oysters in Louisiana(State Lease)
1	Hunting W/O Non-Resident Lic.
1	Failure to Abide By Commission Rules
1	Hunting Ducks W/O Federal Stamp
7	Hunting MGB Illegal Hours
1	Transport Completely Dressed MGB(No Fully Feathered Wing or Head Left On)
2	Hunting Coots Closed Season
2	Hunting Ducks Closed Season
3	Possess Over Limit of Ducks
1	Not Abiding By Rules and Regulations on WMA
1	Other than Wildlife and Fisheries
4	Take Federal Controlled Fish in Closed Season

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 17	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
8	Boating
4	Angling W/O A License
1	Take or Poss. Commercial Fish W/O Vessel Lic.
2	Hunt MGB W/O State Stamp
2	Hunt on WMA without WMA Hunting Permit

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
Destroyed....7 red drum, 19 oysters; donated 15 spotted sea trout, 27 red drum, 12 black drum, 5 crabs, 51 white trout, 4 duck breast, 4 gadwalls, 1 hen, 3 drakes, 4 redheads, 19 ducks, ½ gallon of oysters. Hardware confiscated: 4 rod and reels, 2 receipts, 5 lesser scaup, 4 rifles, 1 pirogue, 1 backpack and 2 ice chests.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 8

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
21	Boating
18	Commercial Fishing
16	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
6	Miscellaneous
58	Recreational Fishing
2	State Hunting/Trapping

17	Written Warnings
TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

REGION 9: SCHRIEVER

25 Agent positions

**PARISHES: ASSUMPTION, ST. JAMES
ST. JOHN, ST. MARY
TERREBONNE, LAFOURCHE
JEFFERSON-GRAND ISLE
LOWER ST. MARTIN**

TOTAL CASES	158
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
42	Boating
10	Angling Without A License
2	Angling Without A Non-Resident License
1	Angling Without A Non-Resident Saltwater License
1	Take Over Limit Black Drum (Recreational)
2	Take Undersized Black Drum (Recreational)
2	Take Game Fish Illegally (Hoop Nets)
1	Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession
1	Take Commercial Fish Without Commercial License
1	Take Commercial Fish Without Vessel License
2	Fail To Maintain Records
1	Transport Without Required License (Non-Resident)
1	Blocking Passage Of Fish
1	Remove Contents Of Legal Crab Traps
1	Buy Commercial Fish From Unlicensed Fisherman

1	Fail To Comply With Stone Crab Requirements
1	Fail To Report Commercial Fisheries Data
1	Take Undersize Oysters From Natural Reef
2	Use Four Trawls In Two Trawl Area
1	Violate Shrimp Provisions
2	Failure To Tag Containerized Oysters
1	Fail To Cull Oysters In Proper Location
7	Hunt Wild Quadrupeds Illegal Hours
4	Hunt From Public Road
1	Hunt MGB Without State Stamp
2	Hunting Without Resident License
7	Hunting From Moving Vehicle
2	Hunting With Unplugged Gun
1	Possess Live Quadruped (Deer) Without Permit
7	Fail To Wear Hunters Orange
1	Hunt On DMAP Lands Without Permit From Owner
4	Hunt Deer Illegal Hours
2	Hunt Raccoons Illegally
1	Hunting Ducks Without Federal Stamp
1	Hunting With Unsigned Duck Stamp

4	Hunting MGB From Moving Motorboat
2	Hunting Ducks Closed Season
2	Possess Over Limit Of Ducks (Field Possession)
2	Violation Of Sanitary Code-Ch 9 (Hold Tags)
1	Operate ATV Vehicle On Public Road
3	Take Federal Controlled Fish In Closed Season
1	Driving Without Operator's License
2	Littering
9	Criminal Trespass
1	DWI
5	Hunt On WMA Without WMA Hunting Permit
6	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA By Having Loaded Gun In Moving Boat
2	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA By Hunting Deer With Gun During Archery Season Only

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 18	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
8	Boating
4	Angling Without A License
1	Fish Without Resident Pole License
3	Angling Without Saltwater License
1	Angling Without Saltwater License (Non-Resident)

1	Take Undersize Oysters From Natural Reef
----------	---

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
9170 lbs shrimp sold \$7794.50, 6 quarts oysters, 6 red drums, 17 black drum, 1 raccoon, 1 bream, 49 crappie, 17 coots, 1 teal, 1 shoveler, 8 scaup, 1 gadwall, 3 gallinules, 400 lbs crabs, 8 deer, 3 shotguns, 3 rifles, 2 skimmer nets, 4 trawl nets, 1 boat and motor (paper seizure), 3 commercial trip tickets, 1 federal duck stamp, 1 crab trap, 2 vessel licenses, various shotgun and rifle shells,

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 9

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
42	Boating
18	Commercial Fishing
10	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
30	Miscellaneous
18	Recreational Fishing
38	State Hunting/Trapping
18	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
3	Public Assistance

OYSTER STRIKE FORCE
3 Agent positions

COASTAL WATERS

TOTAL CASES	24
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
4	Boating
1	Fail To Maintain Traceable Oyster Records
2	Fail To Maintain Records
1	Take Or Possess Commercial Fish W/O A Commercial License
1	Buy Commercial Fish From An Unlicensed Fisherman
2	Take Undersize Oysters From A Natural Reef
1	Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession
2	Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
1	Fail To Cull Oysters In Proper Location
3	Take Oysters From An Approved Area
1	Fail To Land Oysters In Louisiana
1	Fail To Fill Out Required Harvester Log Sheet Chapter 9
1	Angling W/O A Basic License Non-Resident
1	Angling W/O a Saltwater License Non-Resident
1	Take Or Possess Over Limit Of Red Drum
1	Take Red Drum Closed Season

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 0	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
8 sacks of oysters, 4 boxes of blue crabs, 5 red drum.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR OYSTER STRIKE FORCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
4	Boating
16	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
1	Miscellaneous
3	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

SEAFOOD INVESTIGATIVE UNIT**STATEWIDE**

TOTAL CASES	33
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Commercial Fisherman Sells To Consumer W/O Fresh Products
1	Commercial Fresh Products License Fail To Maintain Records
8	Buy/Sell Fish W/O A Wholesale/Retail Seafood Dealer's License
1	Buy/Sell Fish W/O A Retail Seafood Dealer's License
9	Fail To Maintain Records
2	Transport W/O Required License
2	Buy Commercial Fish From Unlicensed Dealer
2	Fail To Report Commercial Fisheries Data
2	Fail To Mark Containerized Oysters
1	Sell For Resell Untagged Oysters
1	Possess Untagged Oysters 10%
3	Violation Of Sanitary Code Chapter 9

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 0	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION	
20 pts. Of oysters destroyed, 1 quart of oysters destroyed, 1215 lbs. of live crabs sold for \$682.20, 146.5 lbs. of crabmeat, 7-100 count sacks of oysters destroyed.	

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR SEAFOOD INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Boating
33	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
0	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
	Public Assistance

S.W.E.P.
8 Agent positions

COASTAL WATERS

TOTAL CASES	15
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
4	Boating
2	Take Overlimit Of Red Drum
2	No Vessel License
1	No Duck Stamp
1	Transport Of Completely Dressed MGB
3	Hunting MGB From Moving Motor Boat
1	Hunting MGB With Unplugged Gun
1	Take Red Drum In Federal Waters

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 0	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
13 red drum, 2 ducks, 8 dressed MGB, and 19 coots.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR S.W.E.P.

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
4	Boating
2	Commercial Fishing
6	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
1	Miscellaneous
2	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

REFUGE PATROL
8 Agent positions

MARSH ISLAND,
ROCKEFELLER, STATE
WILDLIFE

TOTAL CASES	10
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
8	Boating
1	Take Or Possess Undersize Red Drum
1	Use Leadshot In Area Designated As Steelshot

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 5	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Angling W/O A License
1	Angling W/O A Saltwater License
2	Not Abiding By Rules And Regs. On A WMA
1	No Boat Registration Certificate In Possession

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
34 shotgun shells, 2 red fish.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REFUGE PATROL

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
8	Boating
0	Commercial Fishing
1	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
1	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
5	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
6	Public Assistance

TOTAL CASES -1067

NOTE: WRITTEN WARNINGS =77

ENFORCEMENT AVIATION REPORT
DECEMBER, 2001

185-Amph. - 61092
Hrs. - 35.6

185-Float - 9667Q
Hrs. - 42.6

210 - 9467Y
Hrs. - 13.8

Enforcement Hours - 67.9

Other Divisions - 24.1

Total Plane Use - 92.0

Cases Made In Conjunction With Aircraft Use Resulted In Citations Issued For:

2-Trawl Inside Waters, Oversize Trawls

2-Expired Motorboat Registration

2-No Fire Extinguisher

6-Total

Confiscations: 4 Trawls, 12,000 Lbs. of Shrimp

MONTHLY REPORT
ENFORCEMENT DIVISION - HUNTER EDUCATION SECTION
DATE DECEMBER 2001

	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Region 8	Region 9	Total
Total Hunter Education Courses Taught Statewide									29
Total Students Certified Statewide in Hunter Education									1324
Number Hunter Education Courses Taught by Volunteers	1	2	9	2	2	2	1	1	20
Number Hunter Education Courses Taught by Coordinators	2	2	1	1	2	2	0	1	11
Number Hunter Education Courses Assisted by Coordinator	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	05
Number Hunter Education Students Certified by Region	106	139	307	31	165	331	65	180	1324
Bowhunter Education Courses Taught by Region	0	0	0	0	1*	1* assist	1	0	02
Number Bowhunter Education Students Certified by Region	0	0	0	0	19*	0	10	0	29
Number Hunter Education Instructors Courses	0	0	0	0	1*	1* assist	0	0	01
Number Hunter Education Instructors Certified	0	0	0	0	19*	0	0	0	19

* - Enforcement cadets certified in hunter education and bowhunter education as both student and instructor

2001-317

FOUR MEN ARRESTED FOR TAKING TROPHY BUCK ILLEGALLY

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries enforcement agents arrested four men on Dec. 18, for hunting from a moving vehicle, taking deer illegal methods, possession of illegally taken deer and criminal trespass. Adam Ray Plunkett, 37 of Epps, Daniel Heath Clement, 29, Grady W. Brown, Jr., 32 and Joshua F. Ward, 21, all from Lake Providence, were booked into the West Carroll Parish Jail with bonds set at \$20,000 each by 5th Judicial District Judge Glen Strong.

Clement, an agriculture pilot, allegedly spotted a 15-point buck as he flew his plane over a field in West Carroll Parish. After landing the plane, Clement, Plunkett, Brown and Ward went by vehicle to the location of the deer, which was on legally posted land. Clement allegedly shot the deer with a rifle. The West Carroll Parish deer hunting area was only open for hunting deer with archery equipment at the time. In addition, taking game quadrupeds or birds from aircraft and participating in the taking of deer with the aid of aircraft or from automobiles or other moving land vehicles is prohibited in Louisiana.

LDWF agents received information about the Nov. 28 illegal hunt and began an investigation. The 15-point set of antlers, with a Boone and Crockett gross score of 178 5/8 was seized, along with other evidence.

The penalty for taking deer by illegal methods and hunting deer from a moving vehicle is a fine of up to \$500, or up to 60 days in jail, or both, plus court costs. Possession of an illegally taken deer is punishable by a fine of up to \$750, or up to 120 days in jail, or both, plus court costs and forfeiture of any seized items.

The penalty for criminal trespass is a fine of up to \$500 for the first offense.

Col. Winton Vidrine, LDWF Enforcement Division administrator, said additional charges may be forthcoming. "We are continuing the investigation and looking into all suspected illegal activity connected with the poaching of this deer," he said.

Agents participating in the case were Lt. Alan Bankston, Sgt. Scott Matthews, Sr. Agent Darren Bruce, Sr. Agent Brian Rawls, Sr. Agent Billy Richardson and Agent James Hagan.

EDITORS: For more information, contact Maj. Keith LaCaze at 225/765-2469 (lacaze_bk@wlf.state.la.us).

2001-318

L.D.W.F. STOCKING FLORIDA BASS IN PREPARATION FOR OPENING OF DAVIS POND DIVERSION PROJECT

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries biologists are stocking young Florida largemouth bass in the upper Barataria Basin in preparation for the planned January 2002 opening of the Davis Pond Diversion Project, and expect to continue stocking efforts over the next several years.

Davis Pond, located on the west bank of the Mississippi River in St. Charles Parish, is a Water

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA'S NATURAL AREAS
3 January 2002

WHEREAS, since 1959, the Department has purchased, or received donations of over 440,000 acres of land dedicated as Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), and

WHEREAS, these lands were purchased as a means of conserving the dwindling bottomland hardwood forest and other special forest-type resource areas in the state along with their associated resident and migratory wildlife resources, and

WHEREAS, an integral part of forest/wildlife management includes establishment of unique and natural areas within the system, designated as such to protect fragile systems that may be damaged by disturbance and to conserve special forest characteristics as monitors of management, and

WHEREAS, in October 1995, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission endorsed and adopted the LDWF General Forest Management Plan as the official plan for administration and management of the Department's WMA Forest Resources, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does endorse and incorporate into the WMA General Forest Management Plan the described management guidelines and areas herein attached as the official Natural Areas (NA) on the respective WMAs so listed.

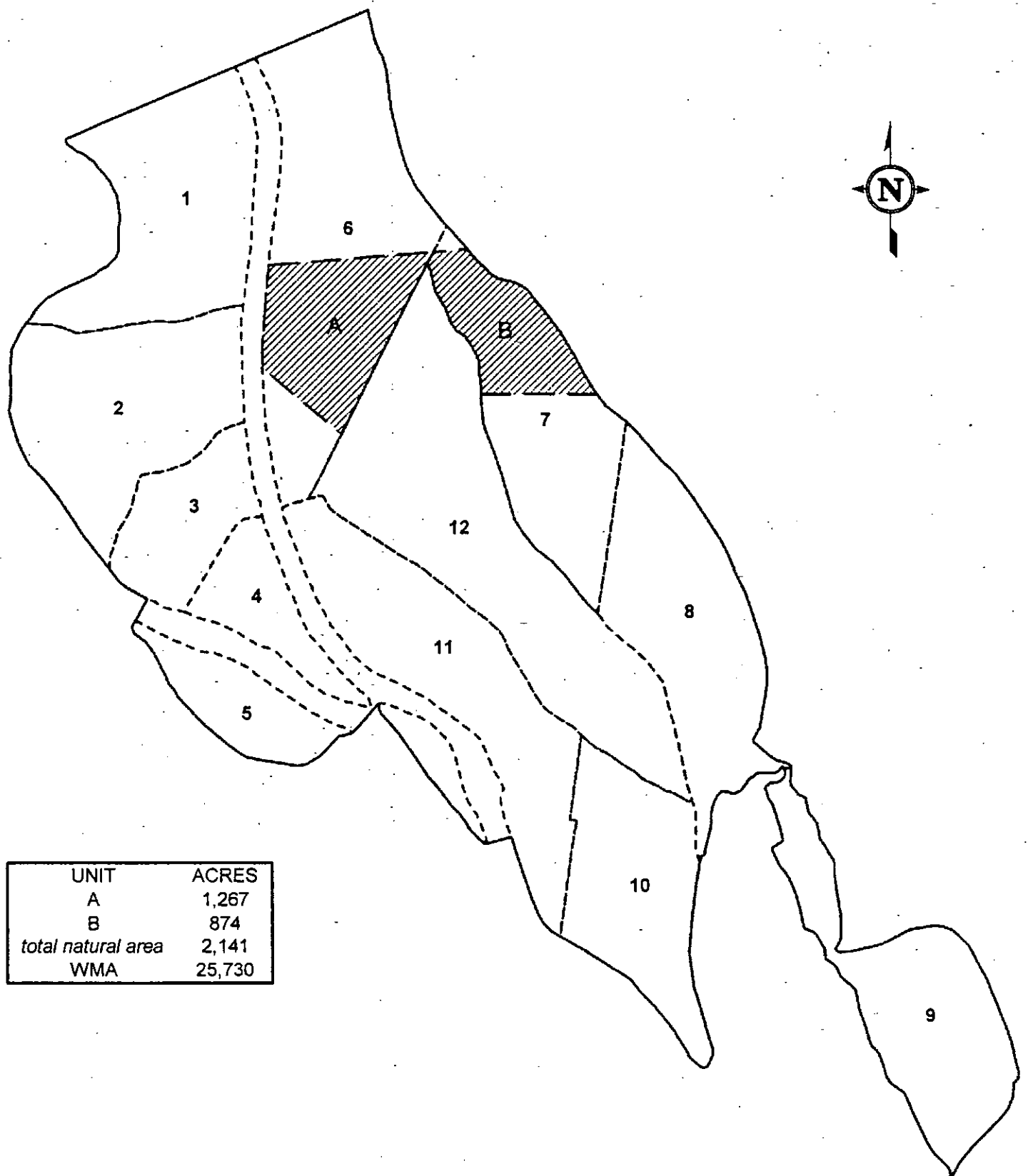
Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries





WMA Natural Areas, LWF Commission Resolution - January 3, 2002

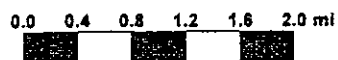
Attachment 1.

WMA Natural Area Maps

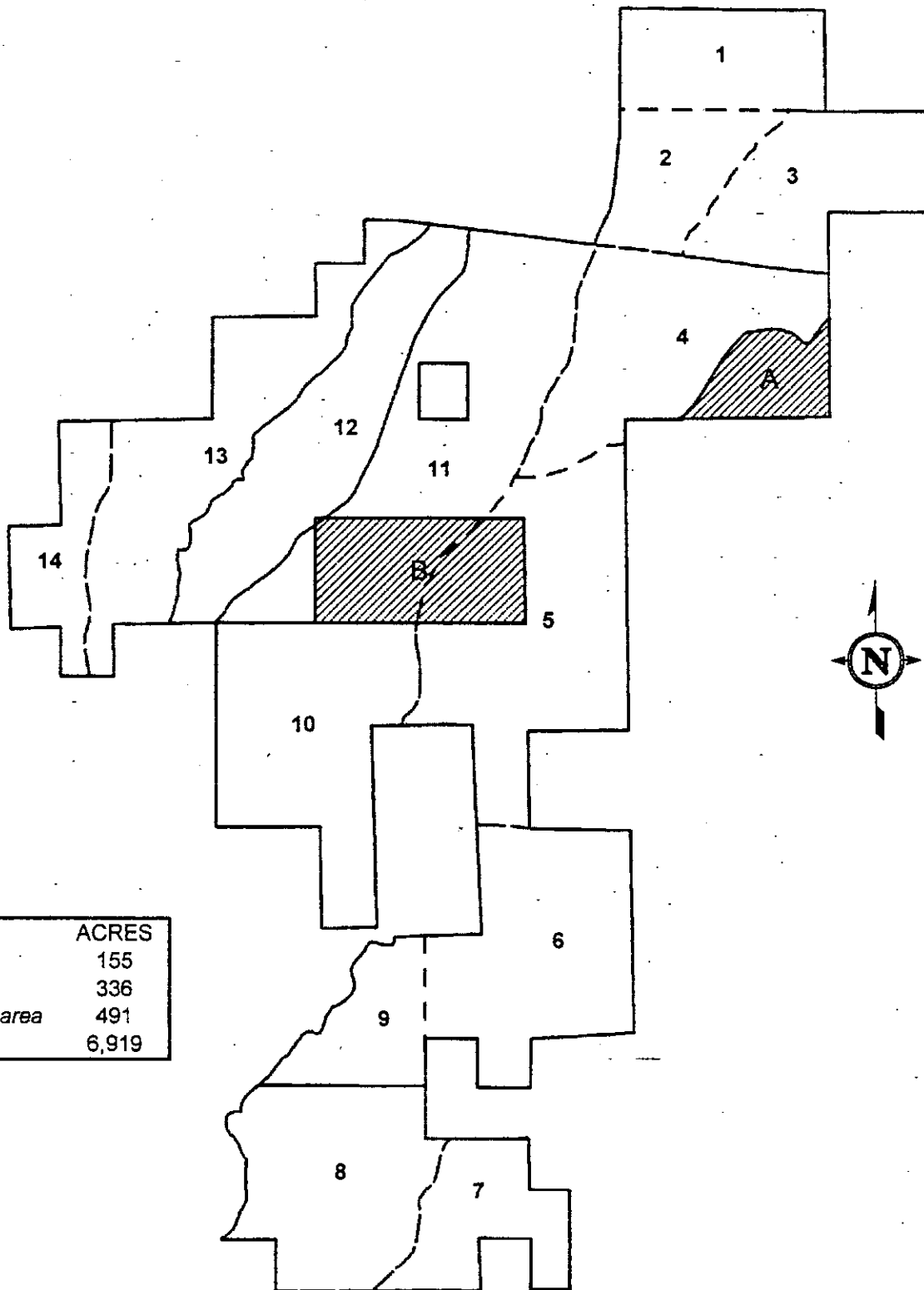


UNIT	ACRES
A	1,267
B	874
<i>total natural area</i>	<i>2,141</i>
WMA	25,730





-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Attakapas Island WMA Natural Area



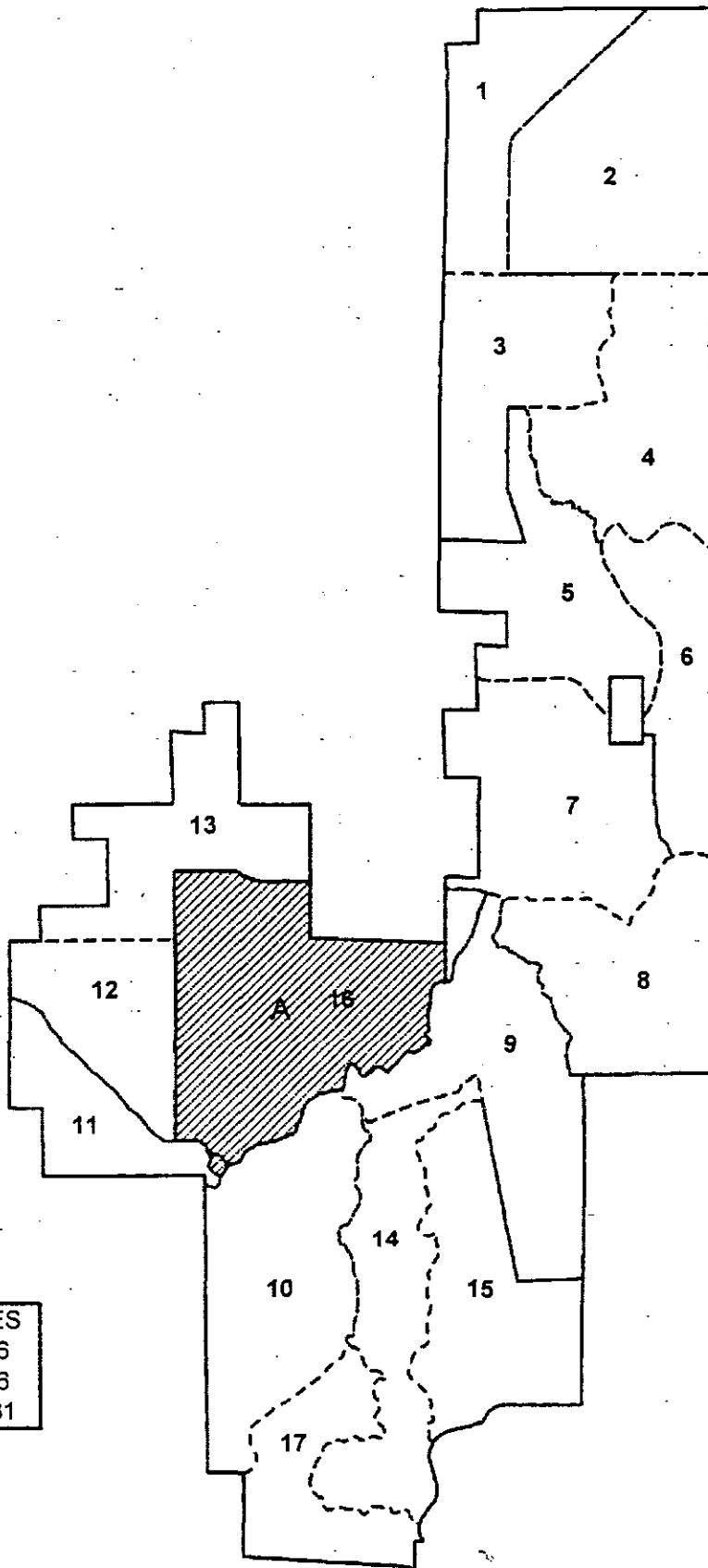
UNIT	ACRES
A	155
B	336
<i>total natural area</i>	491
WMA	6,919

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary





0.00 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00 1.25 mi

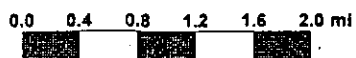


Bayou Macon WMA
Natural Area



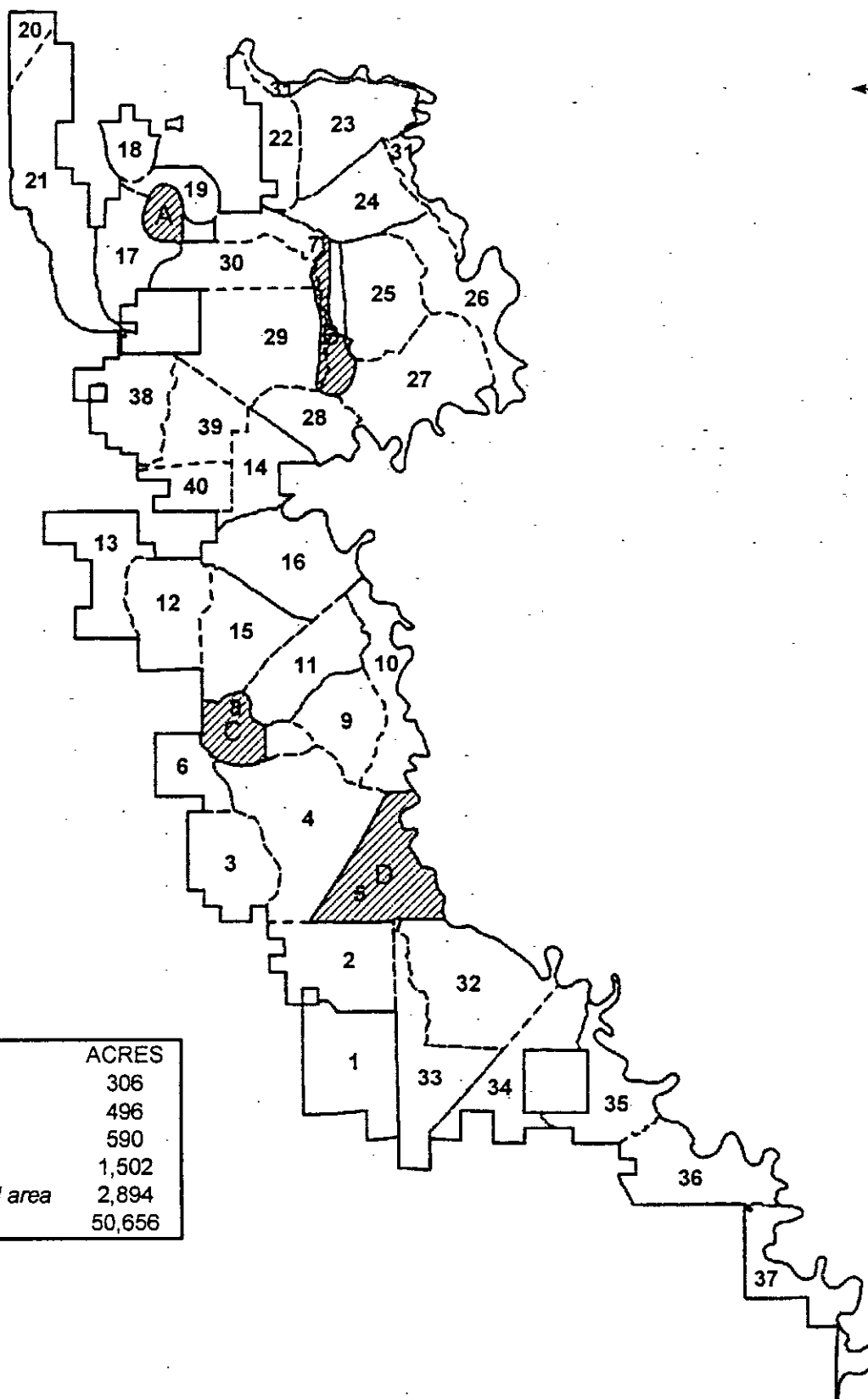
UNIT	ACRES
A	1,876
<i>total natural area</i>	1,876
WMA	19,231

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Big Lake WMA

Natural Area



UNIT	ACRES
A	306
B	496
C	590
D	1,502
<i>total natural area</i>	<i>2,894</i>
WMA	50,656

 compartment

 natural area

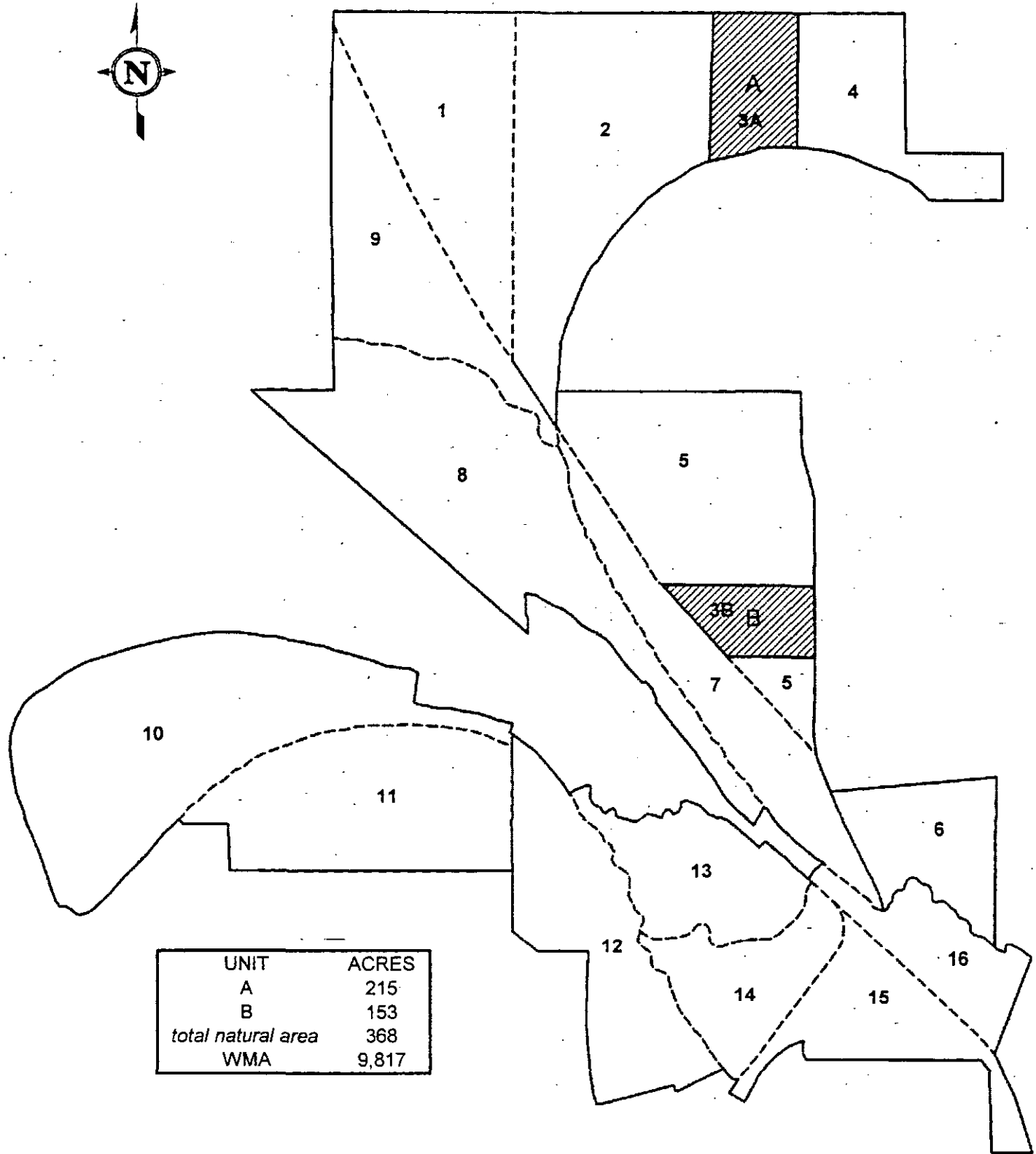
 compartment number

 WMA boundary

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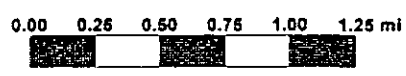


Boeuf WMA
Natural Area

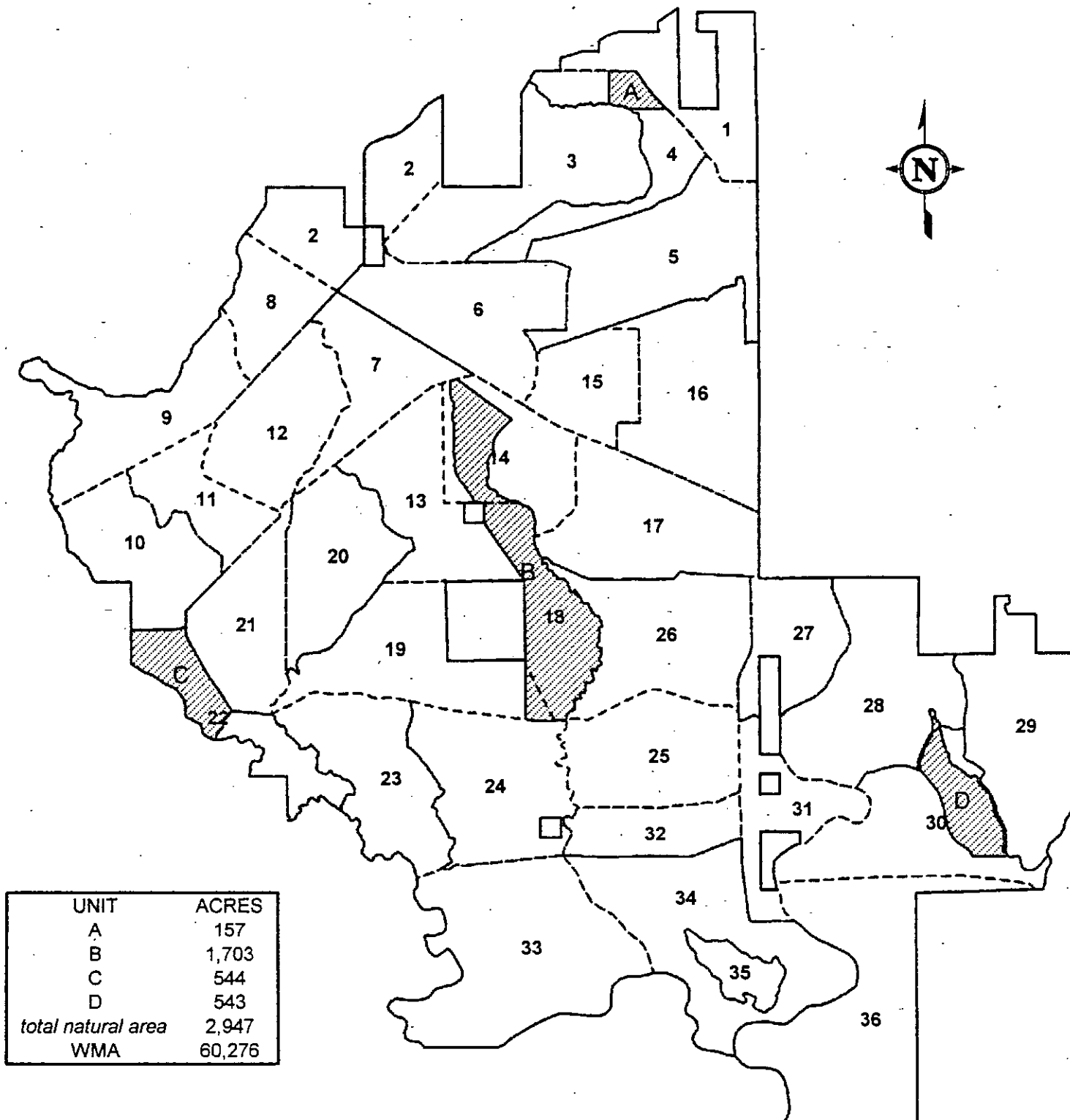






UNIT	ACRES
A	215
B	153
<i>total natural area</i>	368
WMA	9,817

- compartment
- natural area
- compartment number
- WMA boundary



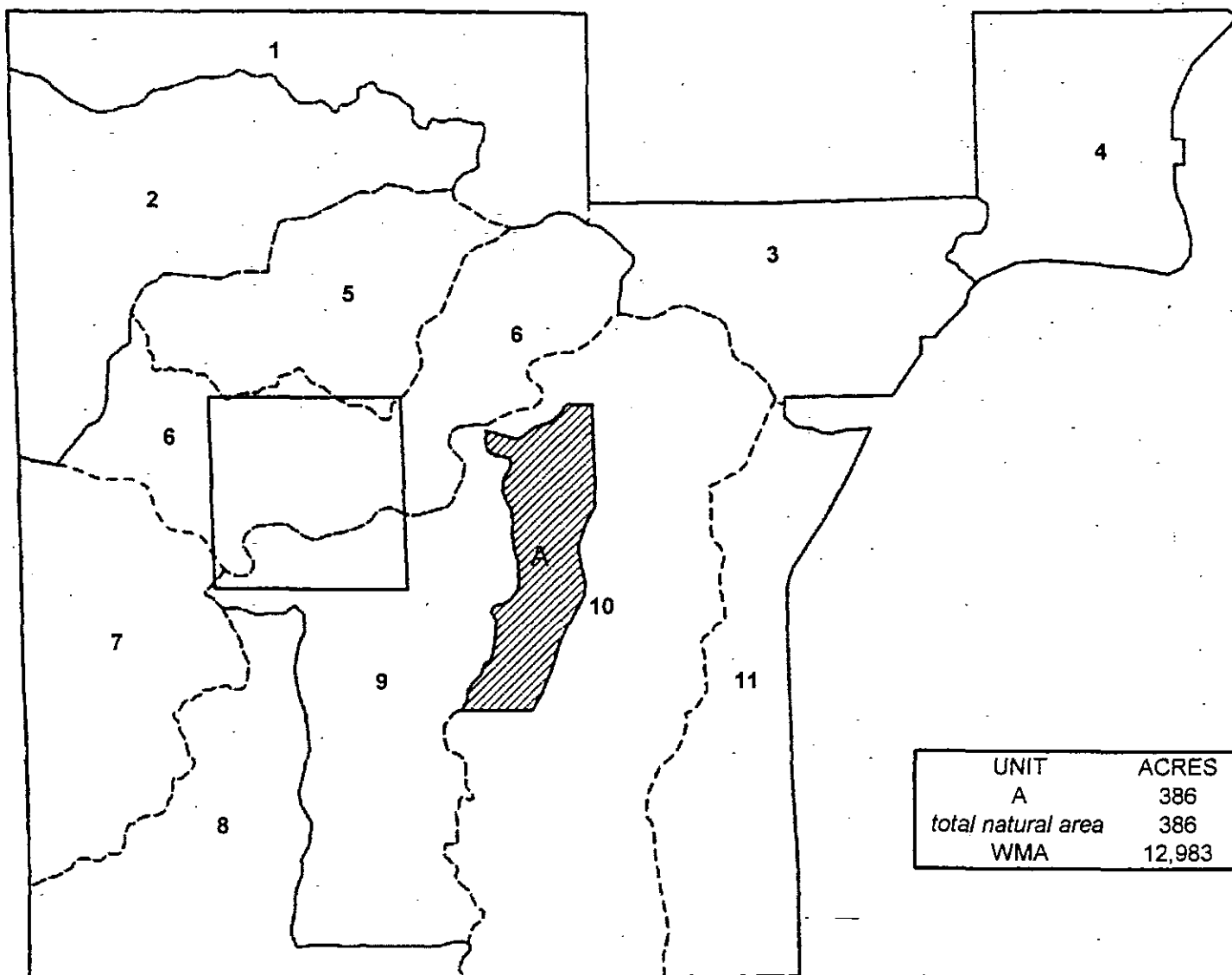
Buckhorn WMA Natural Area







-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary




Dewey Wills WMA Natural Area



UNIT	ACRES
A	386
<i>total natural area</i>	386
WMA	12,983

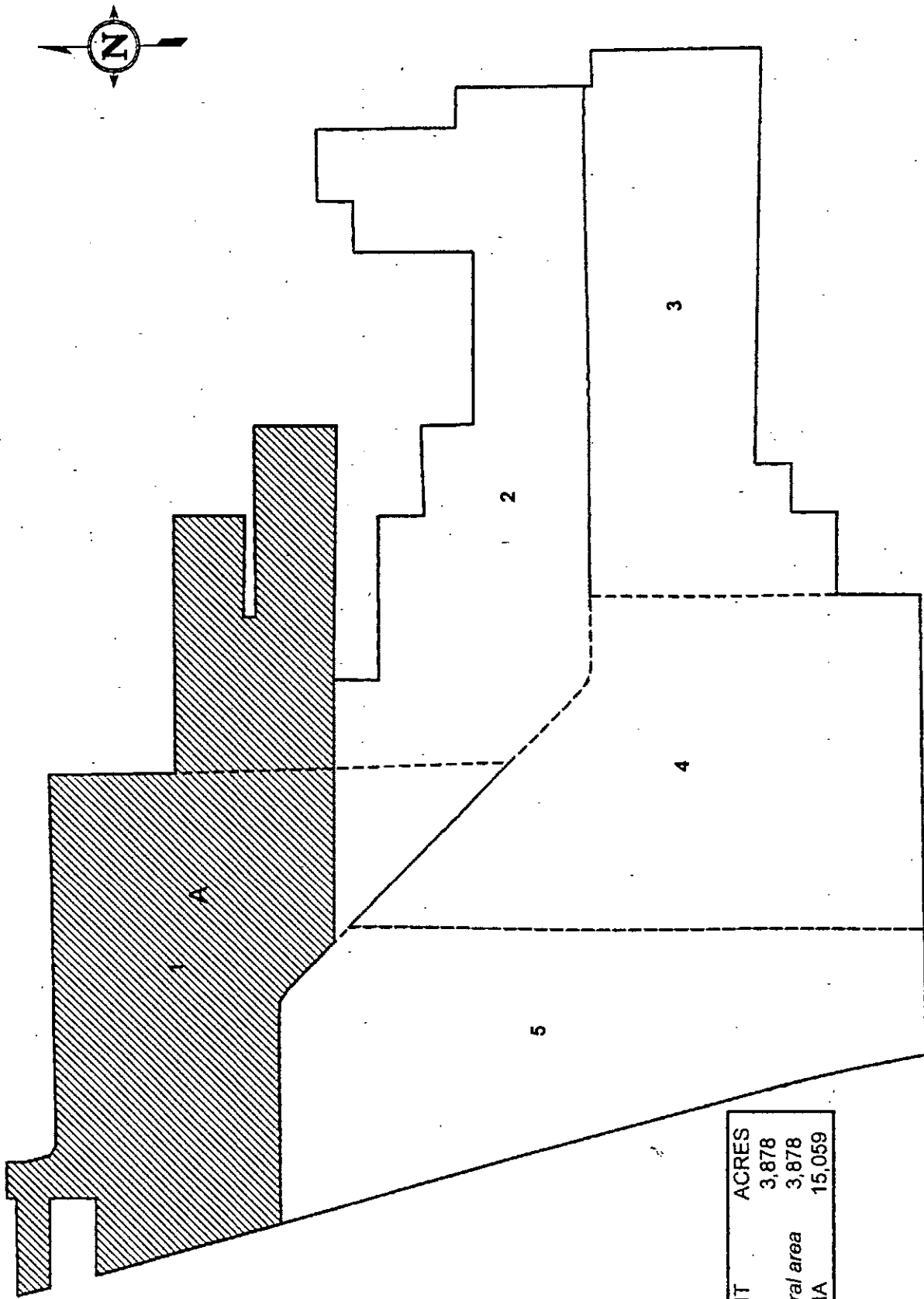
-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary

0.00 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00 1.25 mi



Grassy Lake WMA

Natural Area



UNIT	ACRES
A	3,878
total natural area	3,878
WMA	15,059

compartment

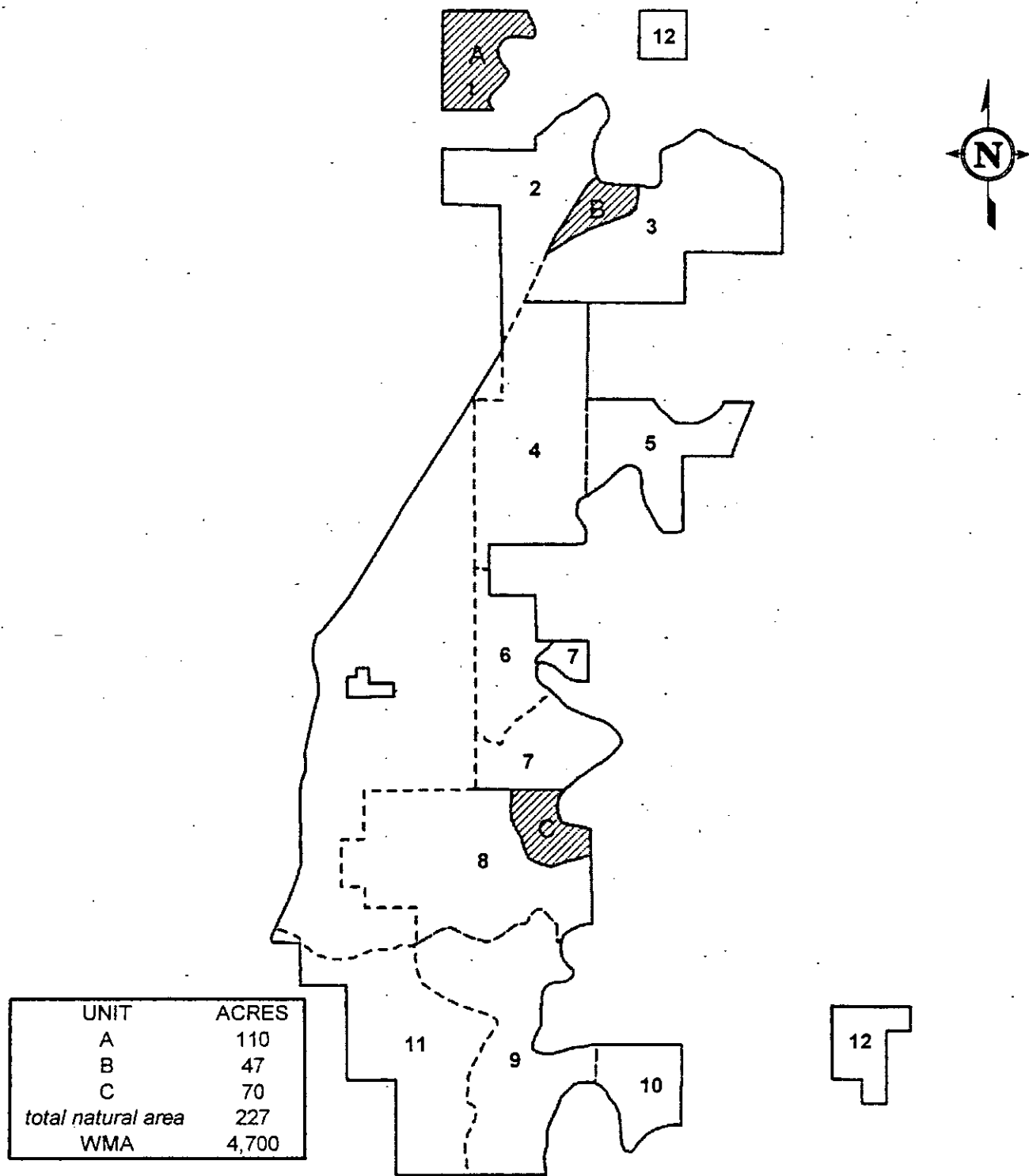
natural area





A compartment number

WMA boundary

Joyce WMA
Natural Area

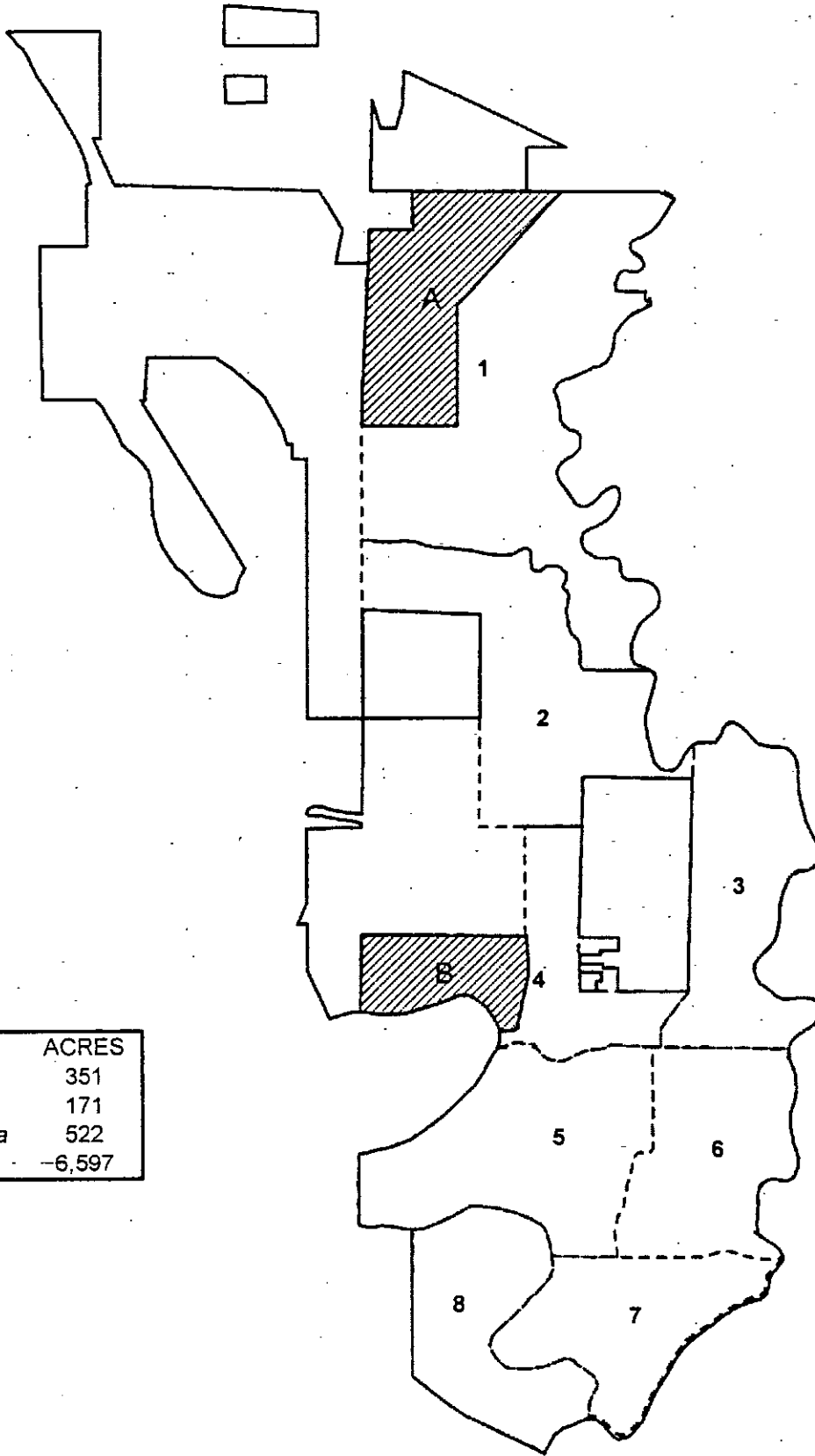








-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary

0.00 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00 1.25 mi

Little River WMA Natural Area

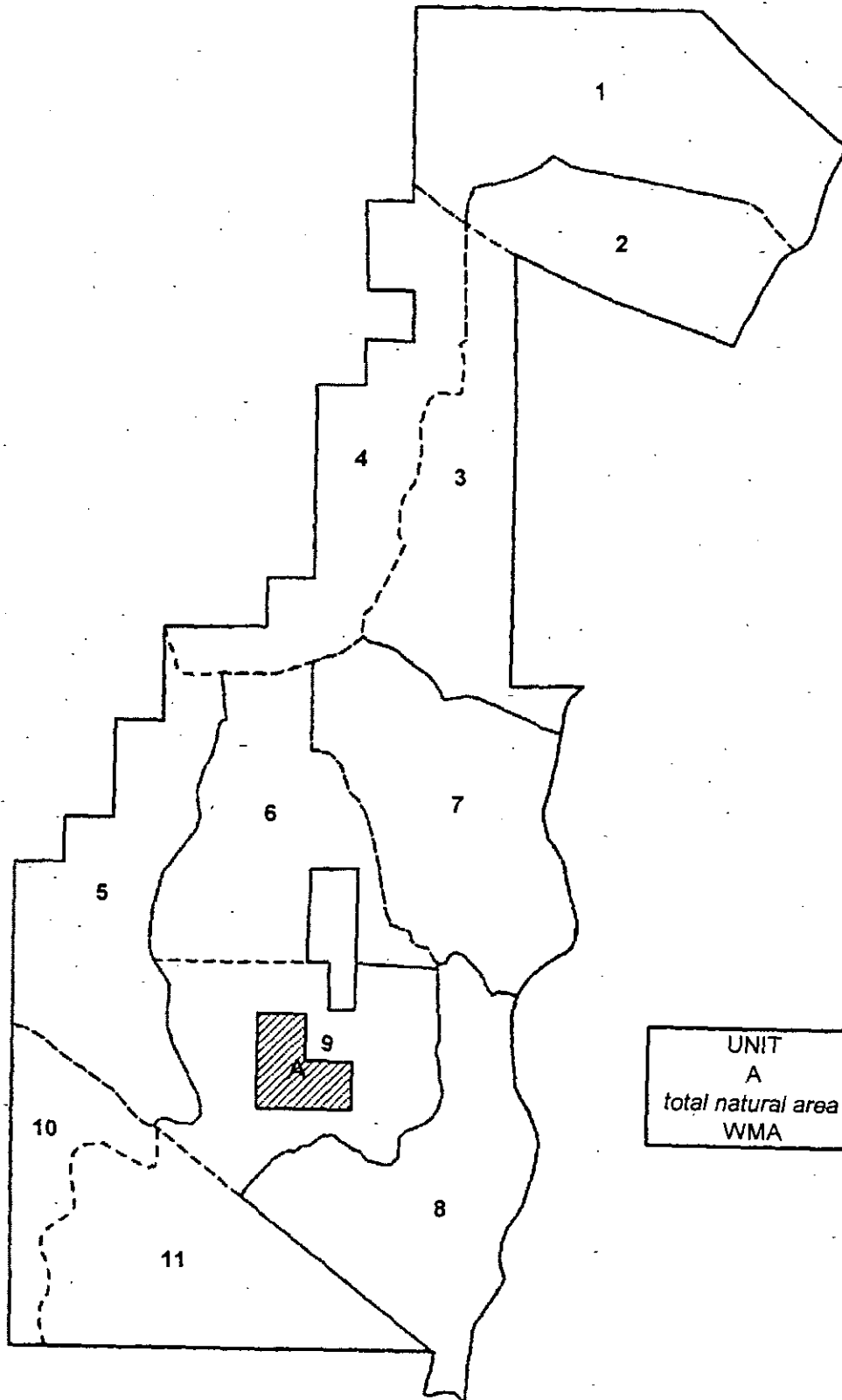


UNIT	ACRES
A	351
B	171
<i>total natural area</i>	522
WMA	-6,597





-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary

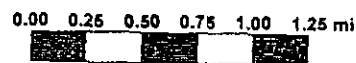
0.00 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00 1.25 mi

Loggy Bayou WMA
Natural Area



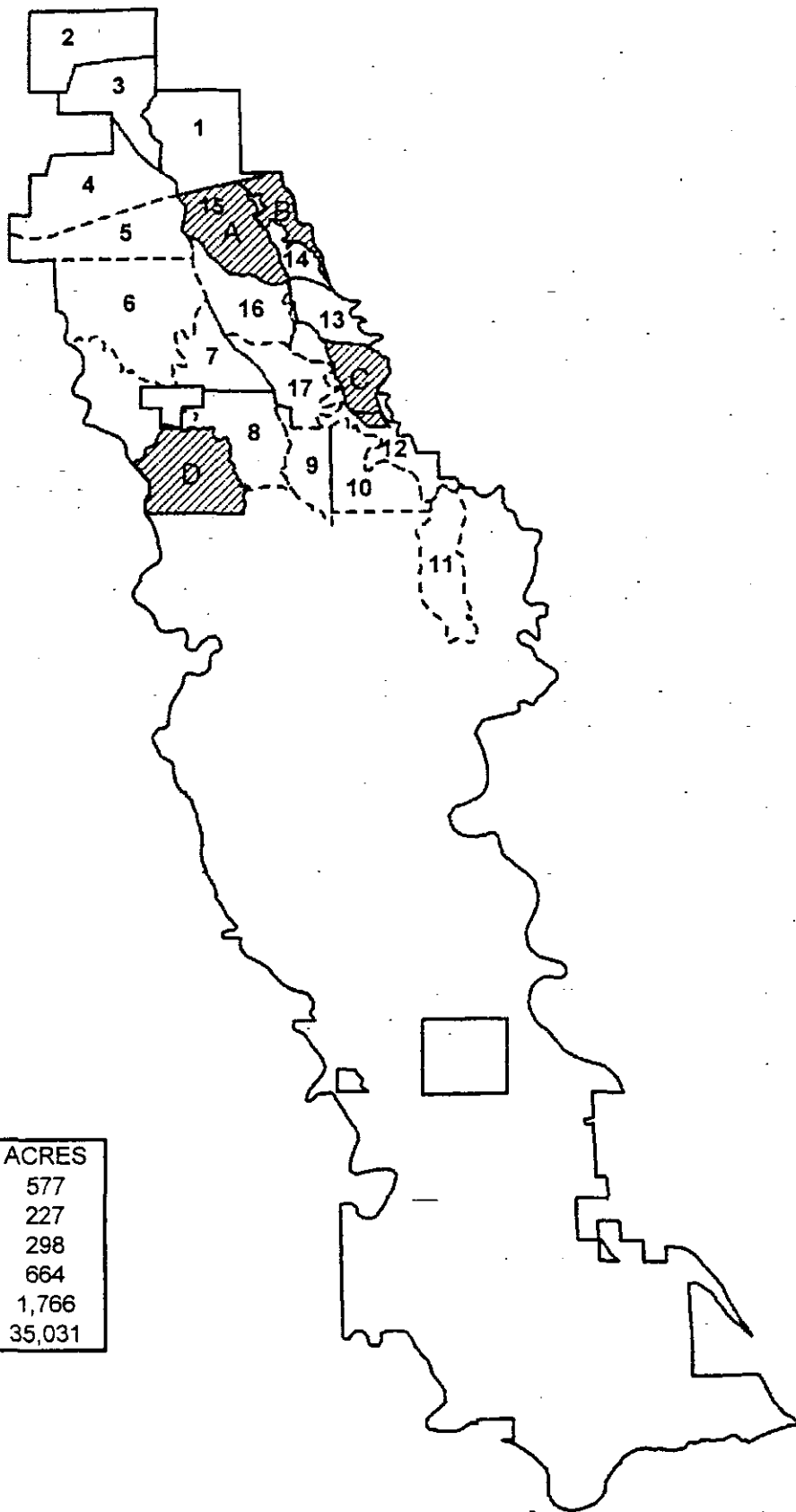
UNIT	ACRES
A	116
<i>total natural area</i>	116
WMA	8,746

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Ouachita WMA

Natural Area



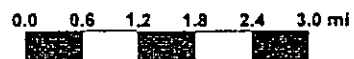
UNIT	ACRES
A	577
B	227
C	298
D	664
<i>total natural area</i>	1,766
WMA	35,031

 compartment

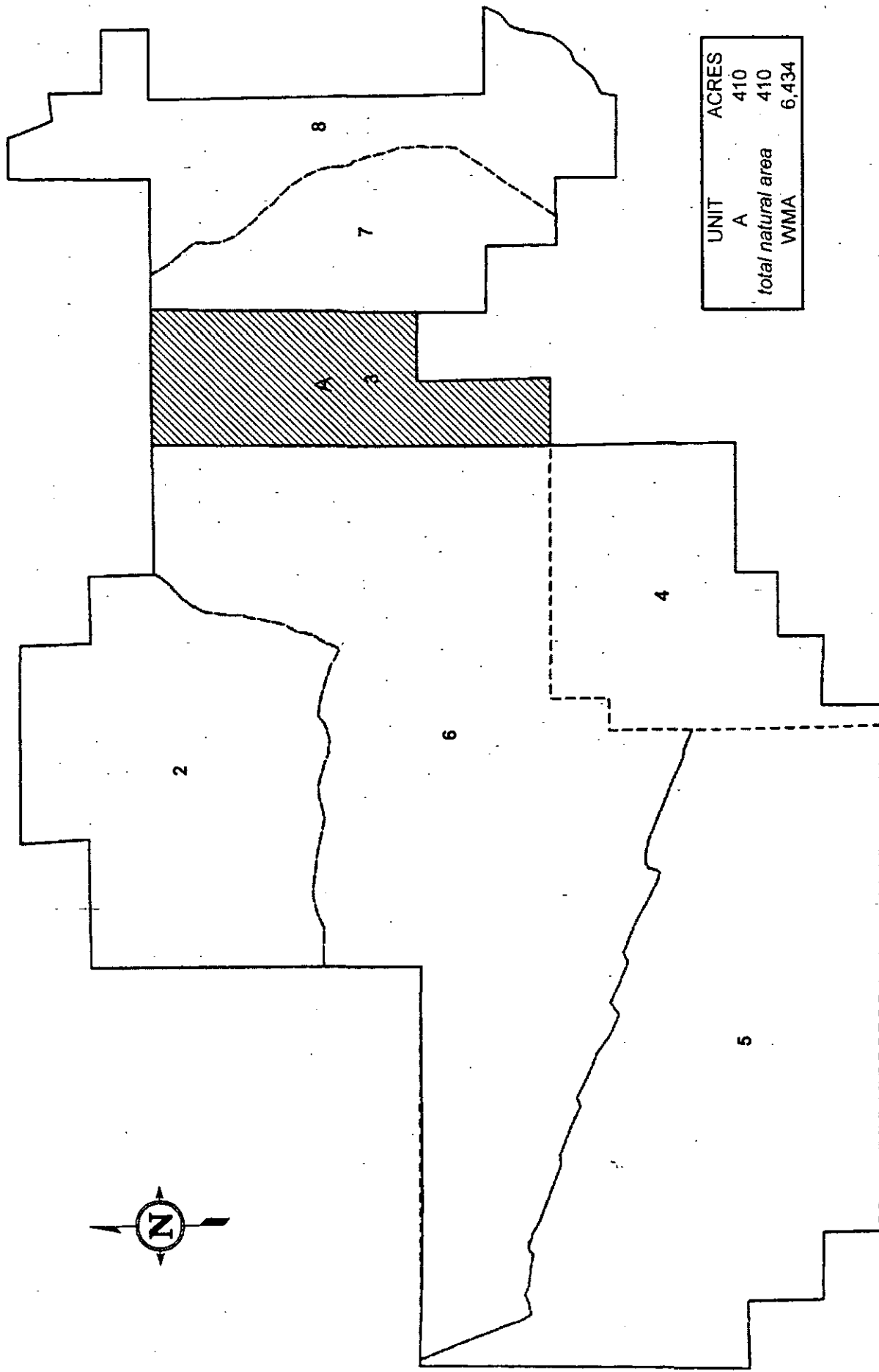
 natural area

 compartment number

 WMA boundary



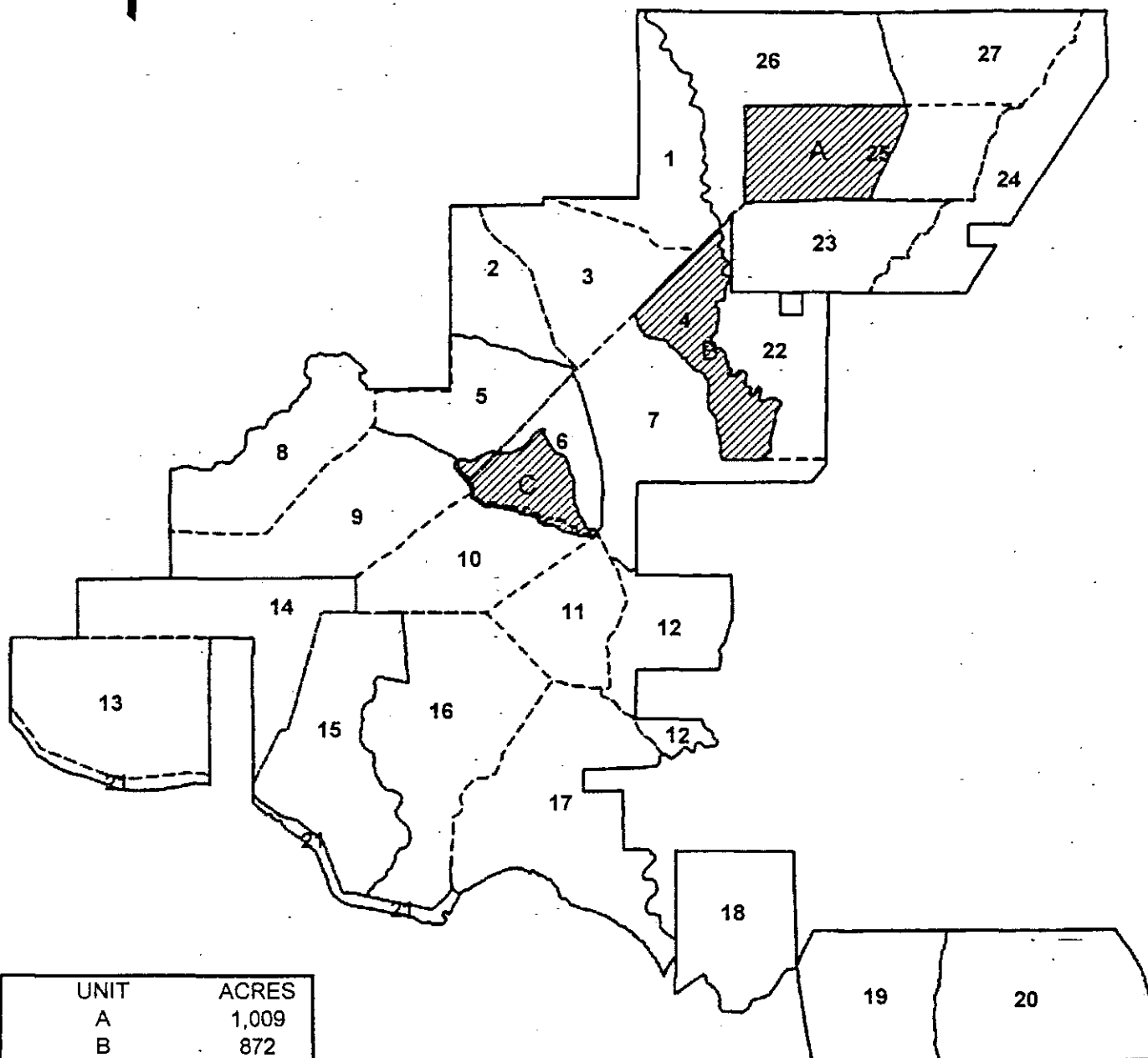
Pearl River WMA
Natural Area



UNIT	ACRES
A	410
total natural area	410
WMA	6,434


- compartment
- natural area
- compartment number
- WMA boundary

Pomme de Terre WMA Natural Area



UNIT	ACRES
A	1,009
B	872
C	541
<i>total natural area</i>	<i>2,422</i>
WMA	36,211

 compartment

 natural area

 compartment number

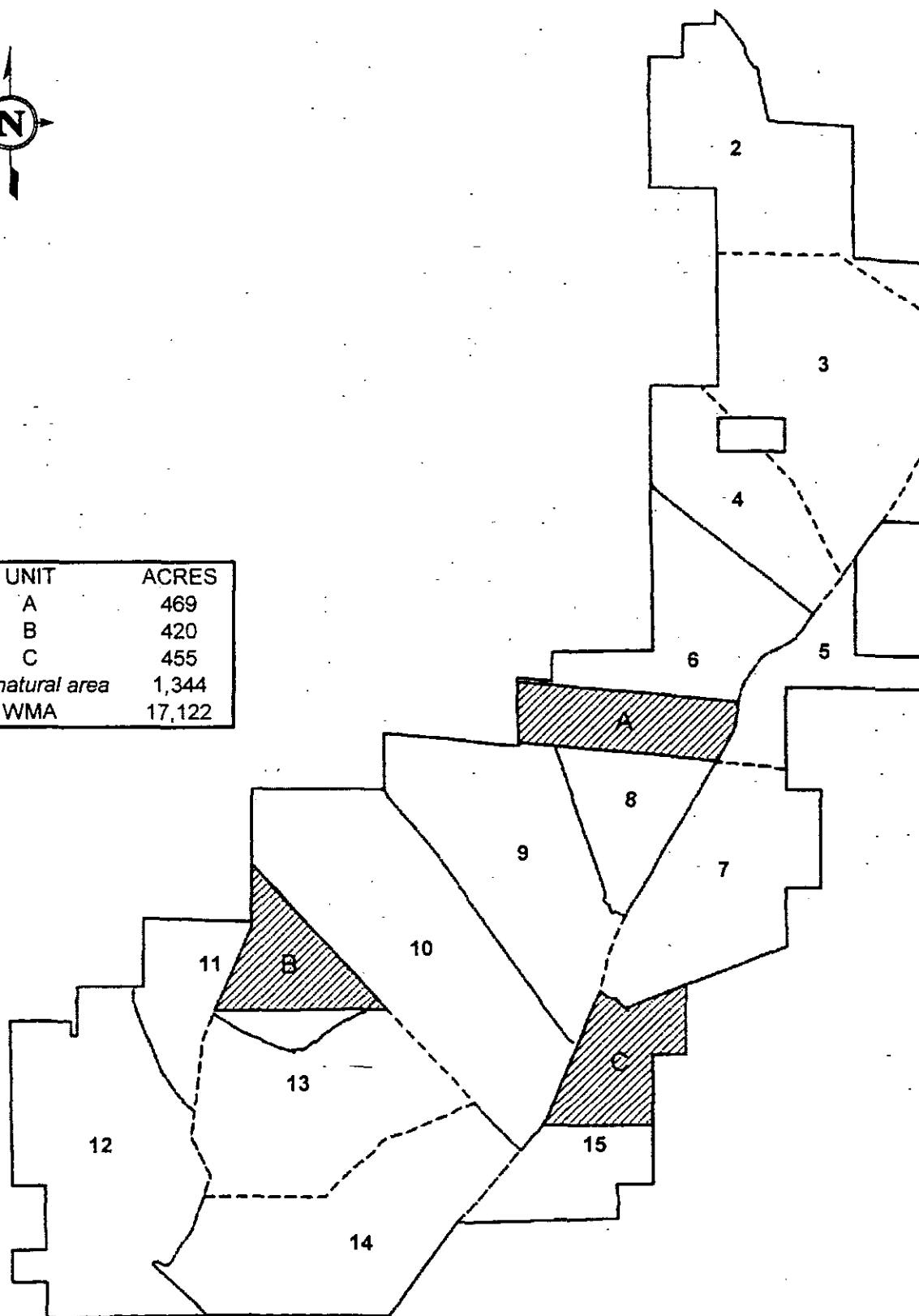
 WMA boundary







Red River WMA
Natural Area



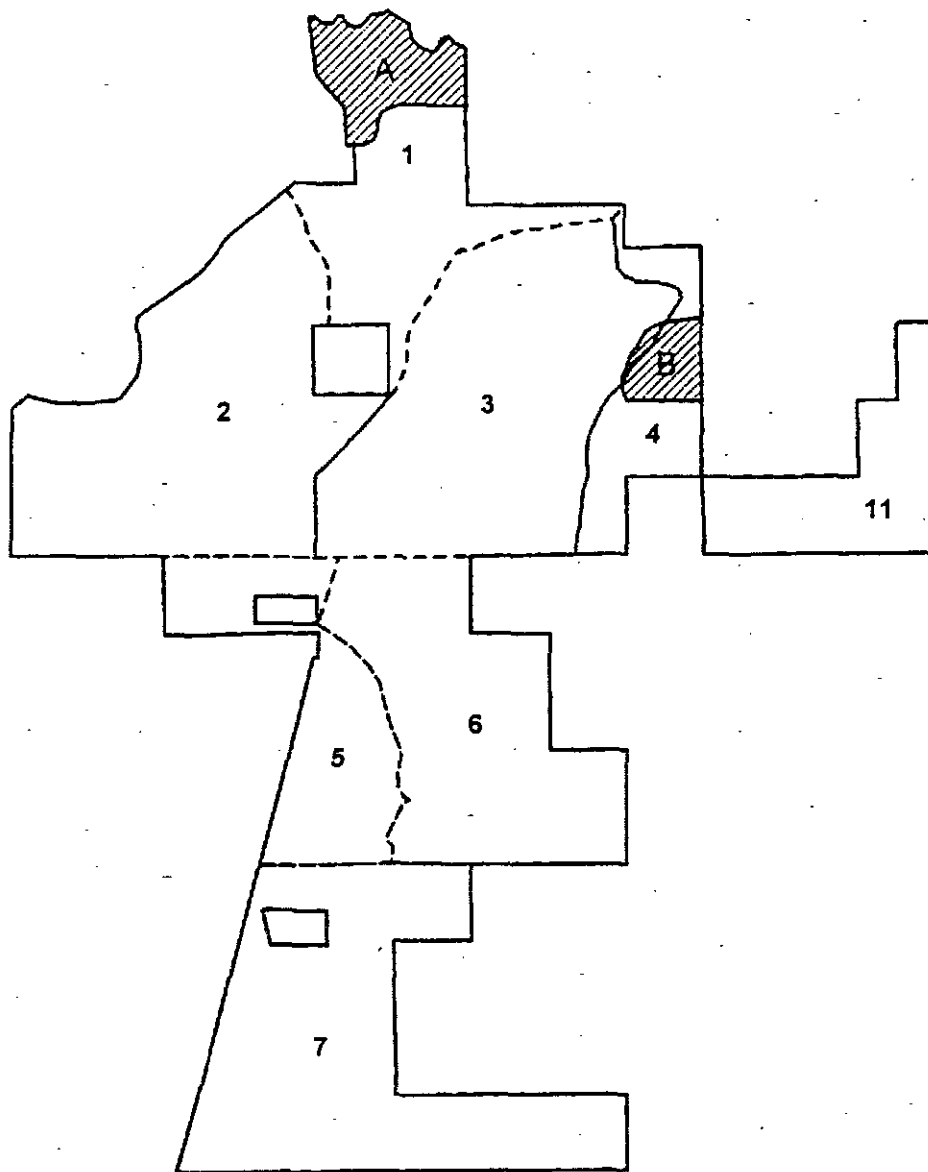
UNIT	ACRES
A	469
B	420
C	455
<i>total natural area</i>	1,344
WMA	17,122



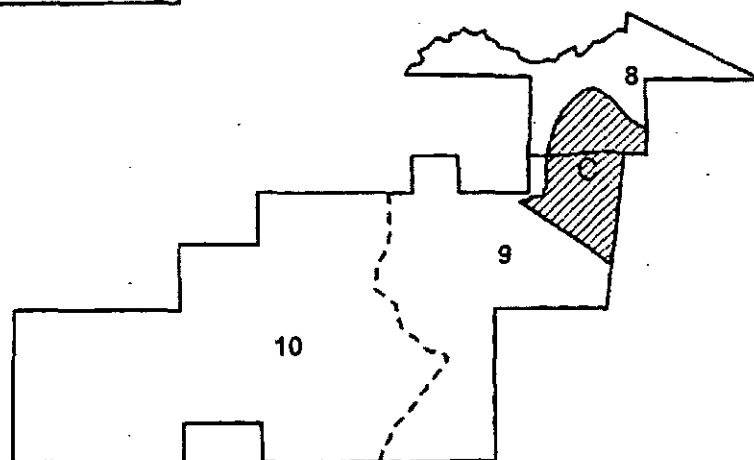
-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary







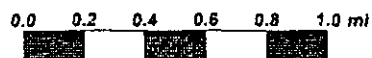
Russell Sage WMA Natural Area



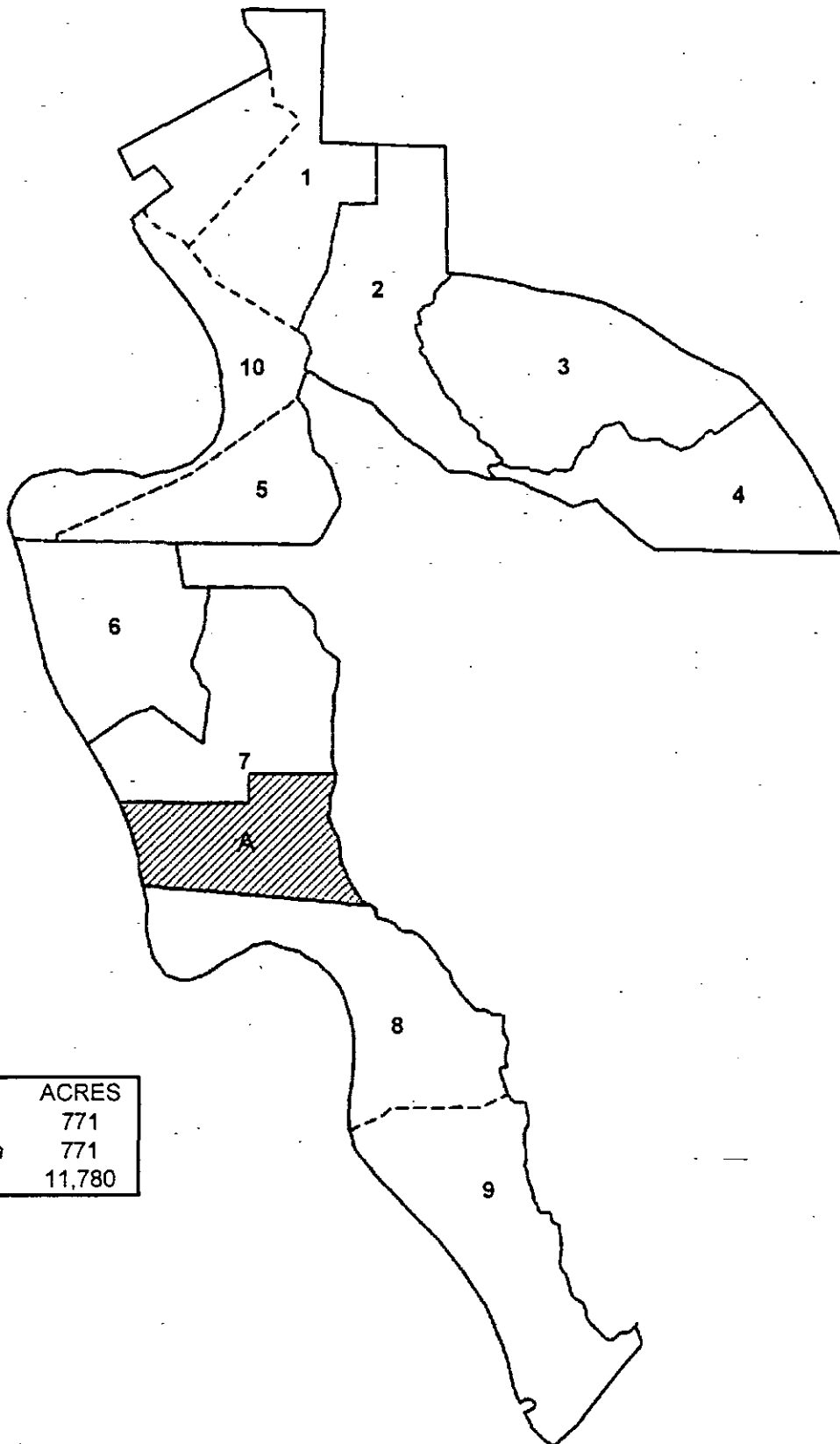
UNIT	ACRES
A	88
B	37
C	79
<i>total natural area</i>	204
WMA	3,515



-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Sandy Hollow WMA Natural Area



UNIT	ACRES
A	771
<i>total natural area</i>	771
WMA	11,780

 compartment

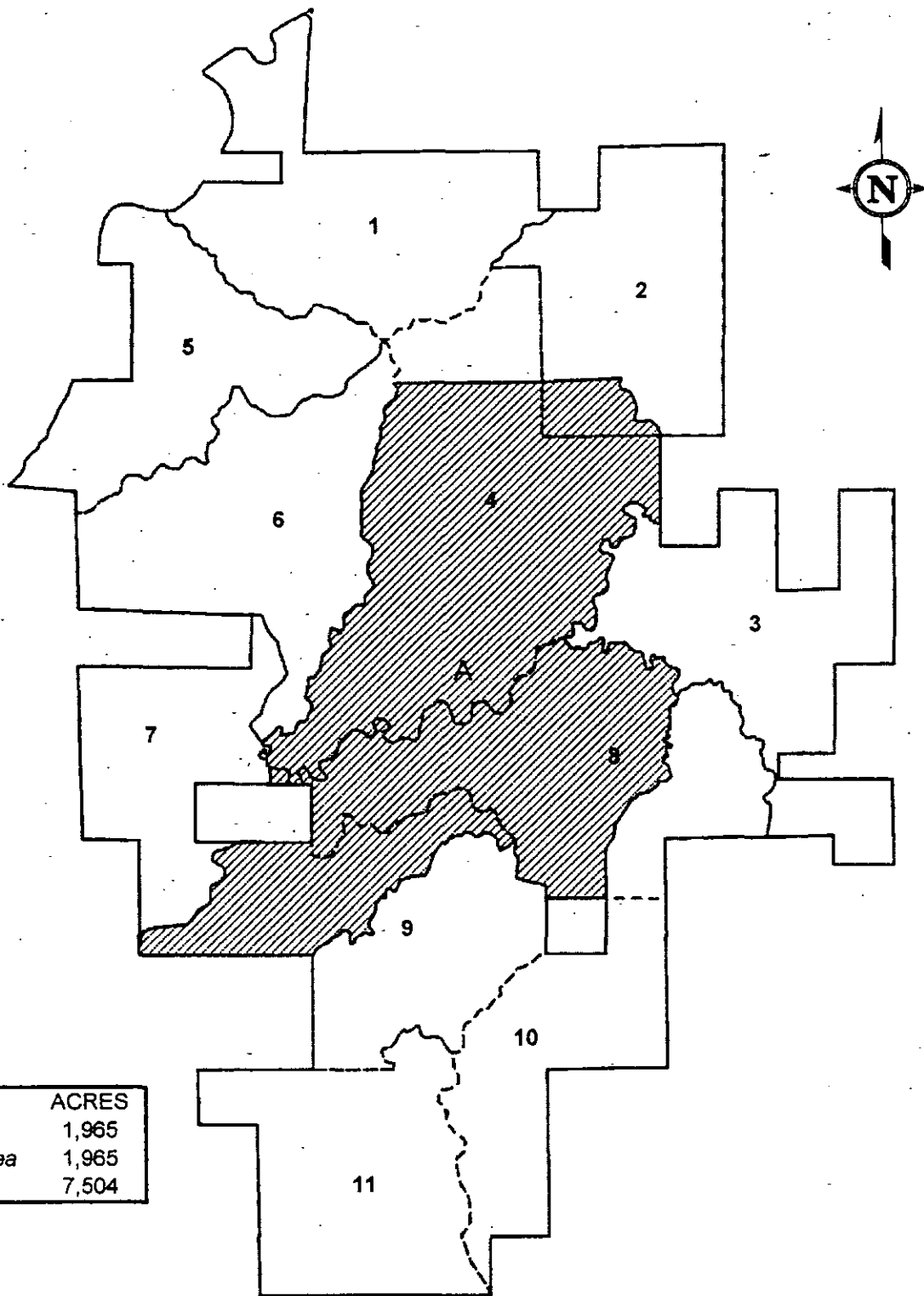
 natural area

 compartment number





 WMA boundary



Sherburne WMA
Natural Area



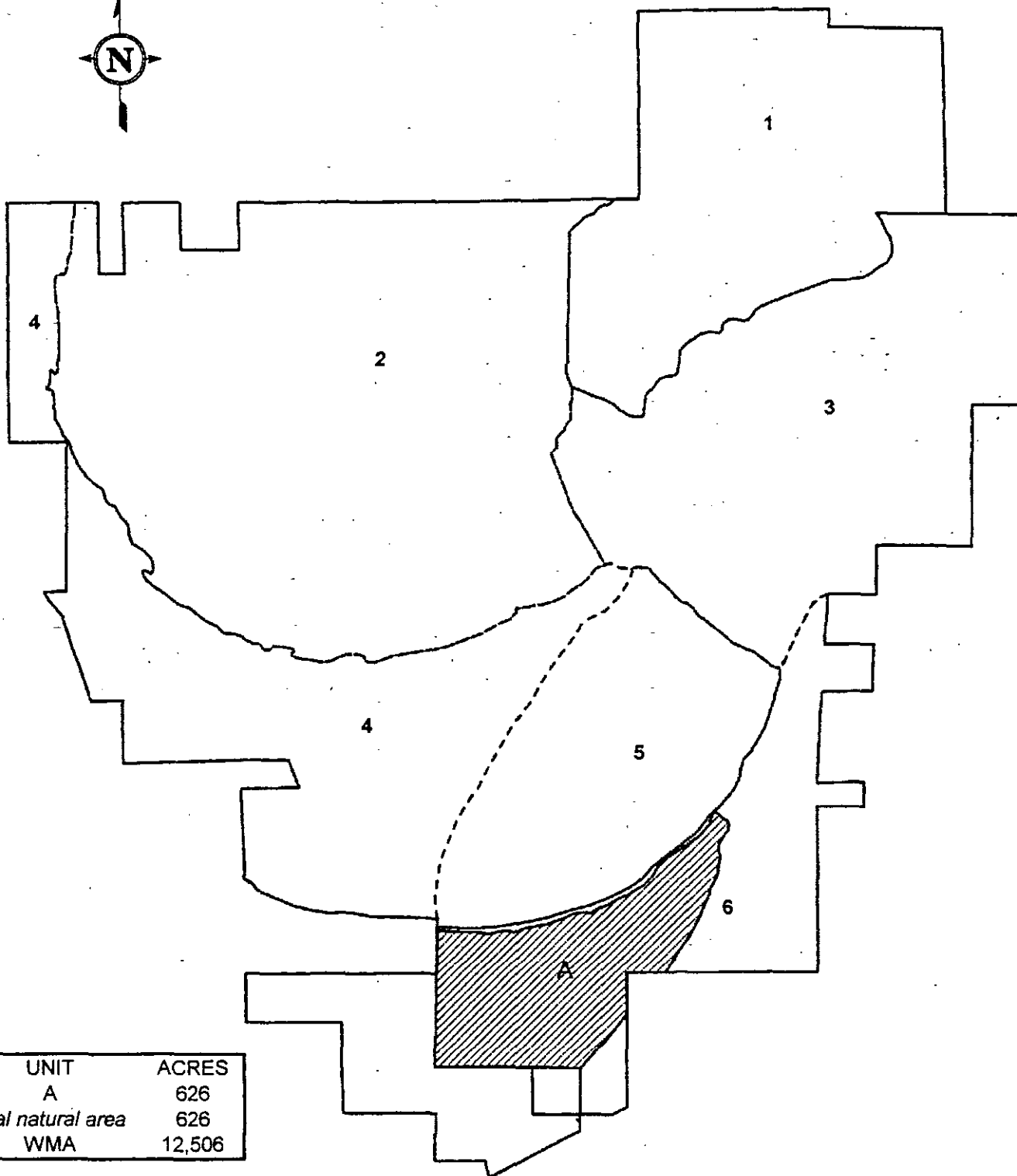
UNIT	ACRES
A	1,965
<i>total natural area</i>	1,965
WMA	7,504

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary

0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 mi

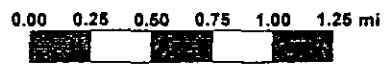
Sicily Island WMA

Natural Area

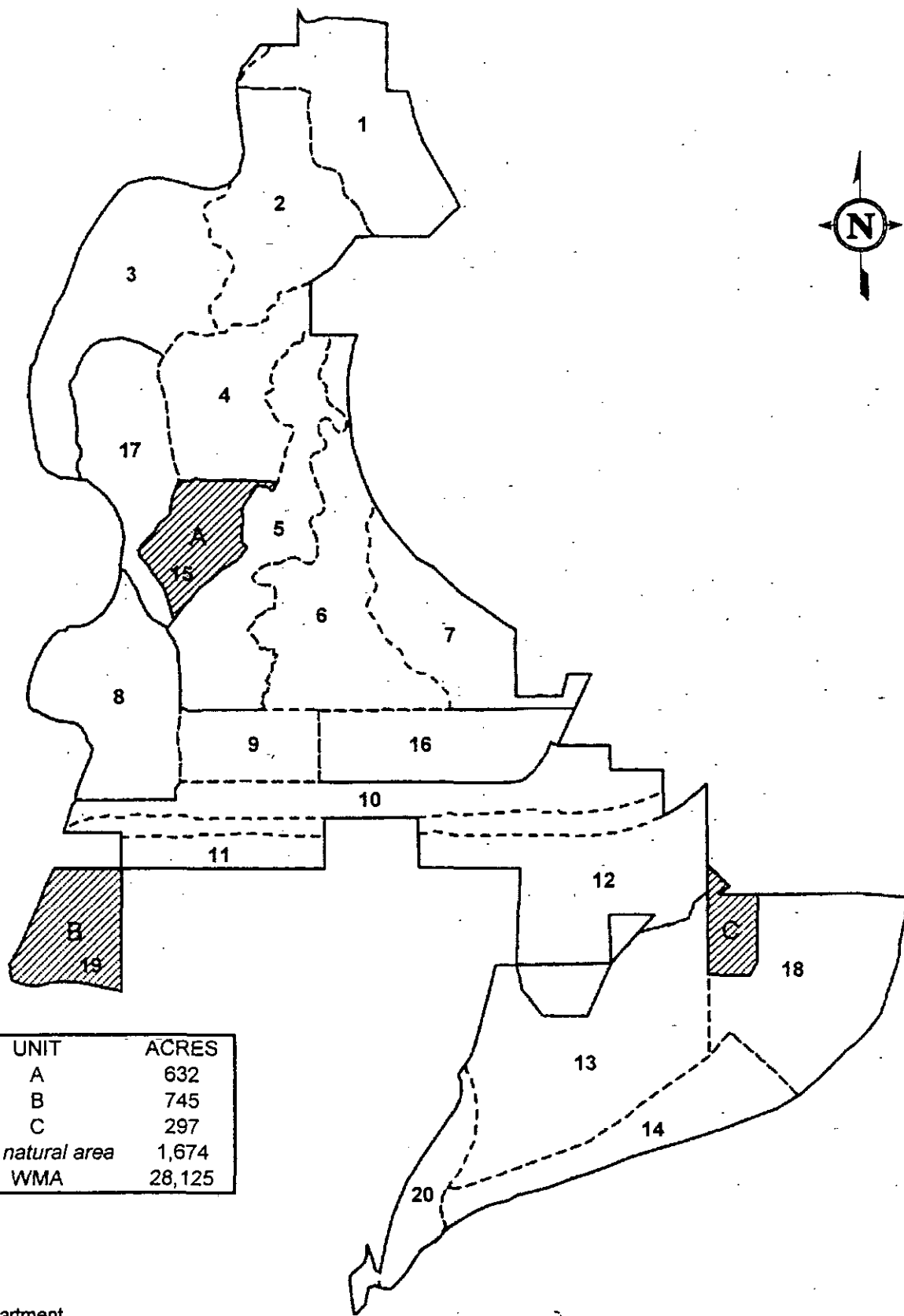


UNIT	ACRES
A	626
<i>total natural area</i>	626
WMA	12,506





- compartment
- natural area
- compartment number
- WMA boundary



Spring Bayou WMA
Natural Area



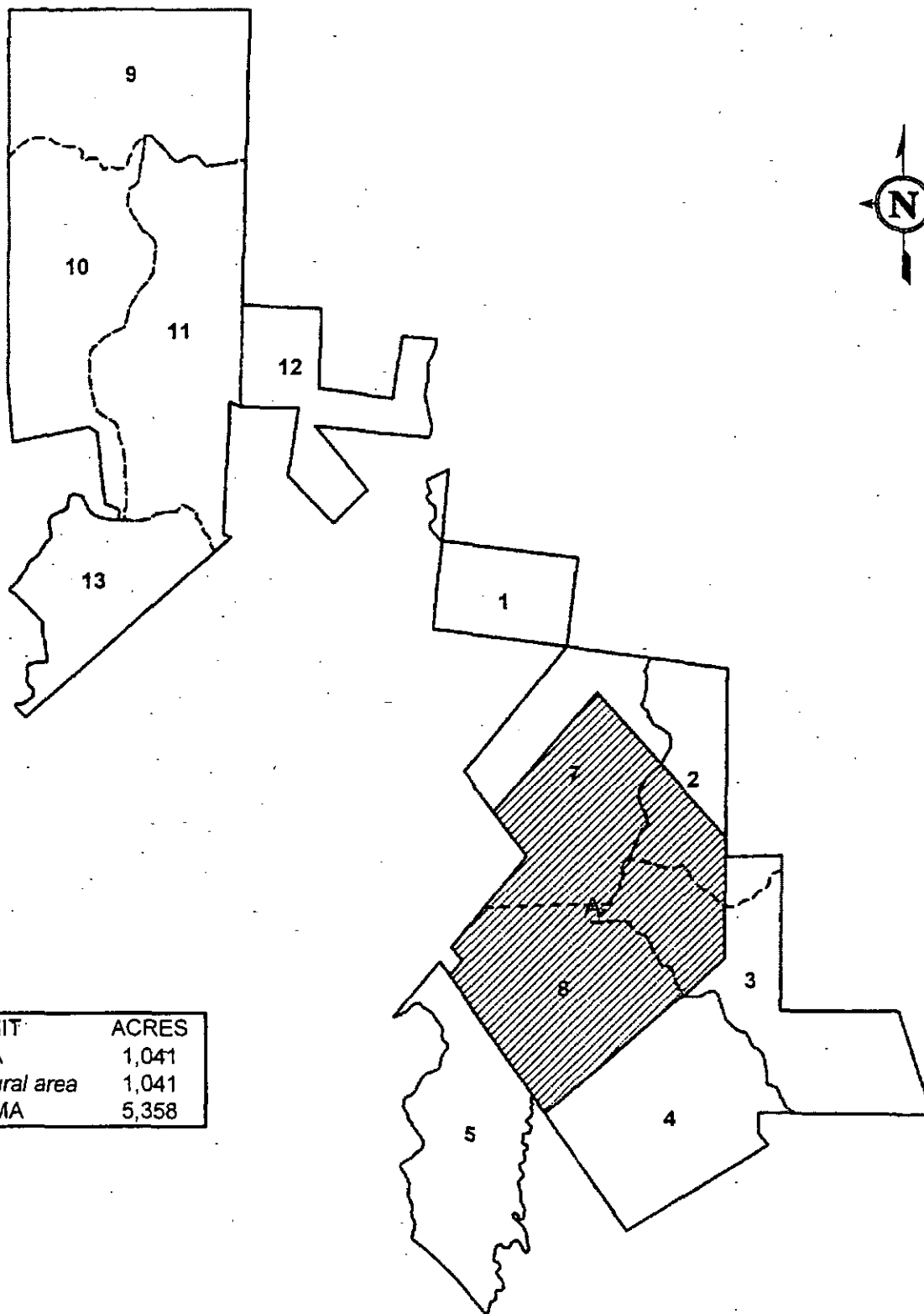
UNIT	ACRES
A	632
B	745
C	297
<i>total natural area</i>	1,674
WMA	28,125

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary







Three Rivers WMA

Natural Area



UNIT	ACRES
A	1,041
<i>total natural area</i>	1,041
WMA	5,358

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Tunica Hills WMA
Natural Area

Attachment 2.

Natural Area management guidelines:

- 1) Every feasible effort should be made to ensure that disease outbreaks external to the natural area should be prevented from entering the natural area.
- 2) Disease outbreaks within the natural area may be controlled.
- 3) No commercial timber removal, salvage or sanitation cutting will be allowed unless such management is consistent with the goals of the natural area.
- 4) If beaver numbers reach a level considered damaging to the forest resources within and/or outside the boundaries of the NA, population control will be performed.
- 5) Removal and control of exotic plant species will be encouraged.
- 6) Existing ATV trails will remain open to the public, and restrictions strictly enforced.
- 7) Hunting will not be restricted within the natural area.
- 8) No new roads should be constructed within the boundaries of the natural area. Pre-existing woods roads not currently designated as ATV trails shall be allowed to revert to forest.
- 9) A nature trail, if established through the natural area, shall follow existing trails, rights-of-way, etc.
- 10) Because of the unique nature of this area, all mineral exploration and removal should be closely regulated and all options, such as offset drilling, should be fully considered. Drilling on the area will be allowed if the state geologist verifies that offset drilling is not feasible.
- 11) Mineral activities should be restricted to existing woods roads, where possible; roads and project sites shall be restored upon project completion.
- 12) As data becomes available, additional management may be recommended. For example, studies are now being conducted on methods of more rapidly attaining a close approximation of an old-growth forest, and some manipulation of tree species composition may be necessary to more closely duplicate the historic natural condition.

RESOLUTION

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

January 3, 2002

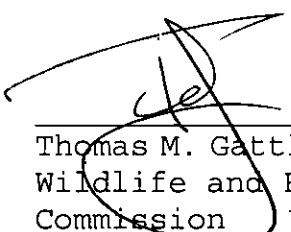
The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge LA, January 3, 2002.

WHEREAS, authority to establish rules and regulations for hunting preserves is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:655, and


WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of resident and migratory wild game birds and allow recreational opportunities for taking of pen-reared birds on licensed hunting preserves, and

WHEREAS, this action will improve communication between hunting preserve operators and the Department, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules affecting hunting preserves are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a Notice of Intent.



Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission



James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the rules governing hunting preserves.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 3. Wild Birds

§305. Hunting Preserve Regulations

A. As provided by R.S. 56:651, the department may issue a license to operate Hunting Preserves. Hunting preserves are to be operated under the following regulations:

1. Application Requirements

a. Application shall be made in writing on forms provided by the department.

b. Applicant must provide proof of ownership or verification of exclusive hunting rights from the landowner of ~~upon~~ the property the hunting preserve is to be operated. This is to be returned with the application.

c. All applicants, including applicants for renewal as required by the Department, must provide a written operational plan detailing the type(s) of birds to be released, the method(s) and time of release, and location(s) of release. A

description of hunting activities that occur or are likely to occur on the preserve and surrounding property must also be included. In the case of hunting preserves approved to utilize mallards, a map must be included in the operational plan which indicates the release site, water areas, and shooting areas. A license will not be issued until the operational plan has been approved by the Department. Deviation from the approved operational plan is permitted only with written consent of the Department.

cd. The department may revoke/deny any hunting preserve license for failure to comply with any fish or wildlife laws, for reasons relating to disease or public health, for deviation from an approved operational plan, or for failure to abide by the rules and regulations established for this hunting preserve program. Revocation/denial shall be for a minimum of one entire hunting preserve season.

e. New applications must be received prior to August 1 for operation during the forthcoming hunting preserve season.

2. Suitability of Area for Use as a Hunting Preserve

a. No license for a hunting preserve shall be issued until an on-site investigation has been completed by the department and the department has determined that the property is suitable for the purpose of the proposed hunting preserve. The department shall base its determination on whether or not the

proposed shooting area will cause conflicts with wild migratory game bird hunting, or be in violation of state and federal regulations concerning the feeding of migratory waterfowl or the use of live decoys, that the establishment of the shooting area will be in the public interest, and that the operation of a hunting preserve at the location specified in the application will not have a detrimental effect upon wild migratory or resident game birds.

b. No license shall be issued for any hunting preserve situated on a marsh, lake, river or any other place where there are concentrations of wild waterfowl or if its operations are likely to result in attracting such concentrations of wild waterfowl.

c. No hunting preserve using mallards shall be located within five miles of any wildlife area with significant waterfowl concentrations owned or leased by the state or federal government or by non-profit conservation organizations.

d. Licenses for hunting preserves using mallards will not be issued in the coastal zone, defined as that area south of I-10 from the Texas state line to Baton Rouge, south of I-12 from Baton Rouge to Slidell and south of I-10 from Slidell to the Mississippi state line.

e. No license shall be issued for the use of pheasants on any hunting preserve situated within areas with medium to high turkey populations. In areas with low turkey populations

and low potential for expansion, pheasants may be used. This determination will be made at the local level by a department biologist in consultation with the turkey study leader. Agricultural areas contiguous to occupied turkey habitat may use pheasants if the preserve boundaries are at least one-half mile from the nearest woodland.

f. The licensee is responsible for notifying the Department of changes in activities or conditions that may affect the suitability of the property for a hunting preserve. If at any time, the Department determines that activities or conditions on the hunting preserve or surrounding property, make the property unsuitable for a hunting preserve, or that continued operation of the hunting preserve is not consistent with these regulations, the Department may immediately revoke the hunting preserve license, or require modification of the operational plan.

g. Applicants and licensees are advised that hunting preserve licenses are issued following a review and recommendations by Department staff. Licenses are issued on an annual basis for a 12-month term only. Changing conditions, including those such as climatic, biological, and land use, which may be beyond the control of the applicant/licensee, may result in certain applications not being granted, or licenses not being renewed. Annual renewal of hunting preserve licenses cannot be assured and applicants/licensees are cautioned to take these

factors into consideration when making any investments or commitments which may relate to the continued issuance of a hunting preserve license.

3. Types of Releases Allowed

a. The use of mallards on hunting preserves is limited to those operations whereby domestic mallards are released in a controlled fashion to proceed over positioned shooters in their flight path. No direct releases of any species of domesticated waterfowl into the wild for any sporting purposes or for any reasons are permitted within the state.

b. Quail may be released after September 1 on hunting preserves for the purpose of providing coveys for hunting. Pheasants and chukars may not be released on hunting preserves more than one day prior to a scheduled hunt. No direct releases of domesticated game birds, including but not limited to quail, pheasants and chukars, into the wild for purpose of population establishment are permitted within the state.

c. All quail and mallards must be banded in accordance with R.S. 56:654(4) prior to release.

4. Inspection of Permitted Areas and Domesticated Game Birds

a. Applicant must provide proof that the birds to be released originated from a source flock participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) within 365 days prior to

release and have not been in contact with birds from non-NPIP sources.

b. The premises of game bird production facilities and/or holding pens may be inspected by the department or by a designated agent for assessment of health of birds and sanitation of facilities. General pen requirements must conform to those adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for game breeders.

c. Accurate records of animal husbandry and mortality must be maintained at production/holding facilities and will be subject to periodic inspection by the department.

d. Every person who brings or causes to be brought into this state live domestically reared game birds for shooting purposes must comply with Livestock Sanitary Board regulations on livestock, poultry, and wild animals (R.S. 7:11705, 11767 and 11789). A copy of the health certificate must also be forwarded to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries within 10 days for each shipment of birds. Any shipment of birds not accompanied by a health certificate shall be destroyed or returned to the place of origin by the importer at his sole cost and responsibility.

5. Hunting Licenses Requirements. A basic hunting license or hunting preserve license is required of all persons hunting on hunting preserves. In addition, a ~~state duck stamp~~ Louisiana Waterfowl Hunting License (formerly known as a state duck

stamp) is required as provided by law of all persons taking or hunting mallards on any hunting preserves.

6. Season Dates. The season during which shooting will be permitted shall be set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. The current season is fixed for the period of October 1 through April 30.

7. Shooting Hours. Shooting hours for hunting preserves shall be set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. The current hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

8. Methods of Take

a. Shotguns 10 gauge or smaller capable of holding no more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined; ~~steel shot only may be specified~~ nontoxic shot is required for hunting mallards on hunting preserves ~~using waterfowl~~ approved for use of mallards.

b. Muzzle-loading shotguns;

c. Falconry;

d. Archery equipment.

B. Existing state laws R.S. 56:651-659 and federal law 50 CFR 21:13 address bird banding, bird identification, bird transportation, reports and records and other issues. Compliance with these state and federal laws are mandatory. Hunting and taking of wild migratory and wild resident game birds on licensed

hunting preserves must conform to all state and federal hunting regulations, including, but not limited to: non-toxic shot requirements, federal duck stamp requirements, live decoy prohibition, seasons, and bag limits.

C. Changes in Rules. The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may from time to time make changes in these rules and it is the responsibility of the licensee to apprise himself of any changes and to abide by them.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:651-659.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 18:1136 (October 1992), amended LR 28:

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Fred Kimmel, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000,

prior to Tuesday, March 5, 2002.

In accordance with Act#1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

RESOLUTION

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

January 3, 2002

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Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

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Title 76

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Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

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d. Archery equipment.

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AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:651-659.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 18:1136 (October 1992), amended LR 28:

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Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby amends the following rule on black bass (Micropterus spp.) harvest restrictions on Concordia Lake located east of Ferriday in Concordia Parish, Louisiana.

Title 76

Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sports and Commercial Fishing

§149. Black Bass Regulations-Daily Take and Size Limits

A. The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission establishes a statewide daily take (creel limit) of 10 fish for black bass (Micropterus spp.). The possession limit shall be the same as the daily take on water and twice the daily take off water.

B. In addition, the Commission establishes special size and daily take regulations for black bass on the following water bodies:

1. ~~Concordia Lake (Concordia Parish), and~~ Caney Creek Reservoir (Jackson Parish):

a. Size limit: 15 inch - 19 inch slot. A 15 - 19 inch slot limit means that it is illegal to keep or possess a black bass whose maximum total length is between 15 inches and 19 inches, both measurements inclusive.

b. Daily take: eight fish of which no more than two fish may exceed 19 inches maximum total length.*

c. Possession limit:

i. On water - Same as daily take.

ii. Off water - Twice the daily take.

2. Black Bayou Lake (Bossier Parish), Chicot Lake (Evangeline Parish), Cross Lake (Caddo Parish), John K. Kelly-Grand Bayou Reservoir (Red River Parish), Lake Rodemacher (Rapides Parish) and Vernon Lake (Vernon Parish):

a. Size Limit: 14 inch - 17 inch slot. A 14 - 17 inch slot limit means that it is illegal to keep or possess a black bass whose maximum total length is between 14 inches and 17 inches, both measurements inclusive.

b. Daily Take: eight fish of which no more than four fish may exceed 17 inches maximum total length.*

c. Possession limit:

i. On water - Same as daily take.

ii. Off water - Twice the daily take.

3. False River (Pointe Coupee Parish)

a. Size limit: 14 inch minimum size limit.

b. Daily Take: 5 fish.

c. Possession limit:

i. On water - Same as daily take.

ii. Off water - Twice the daily take.

*Maximum total length - The distance in a straight line from

the tip of the snout to the most posterior point of the depressed caudal fin as measured with mouth closed¹ on a flat surface.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6 (25)(a), R.S. 56:325(C), R.S. 56:326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 14:364 (June 1988), amended LR 17:278 (March 1991), repromulgated LR 17:488 (May 1991), amended LR 17:1122 (November 1991), LR 20:796 (July 1994), LR 23:1168 (September 1997), LR 24:505 (March 1998), LR 26:97 (January 2000), LR 28: (January 2002).

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

RESOLUTION

2002 RECREATIONAL RED SNAPPER SEASON

January 3, 2002

- WHEREAS, the red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and
- WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore, and
- WHEREAS, NMFS has put into place a regulatory amendment under the framework procedure of the reef fish fishery management plan that establishes a recreational red snapper quota equal to the recreational allocation, and authorizes the closure of the fishery for the remainder of the fishing year (= calendar year) in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico when the quota is reached or is projected to be reached, and
- WHEREAS, the Gulf Council recommended to NMFS that the 2002 recreational quota for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico be set at 4.47 million pounds, and
- WHEREAS, NMFS has closed the recreational fishing season for red snapper effective midnight October 31, 2001 until April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero in the EEZ off of Louisiana for that time period, and
- WHEREAS, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has enacted a closure in Louisiana state waters consistent with the EEZ closure which is preferable as it assists in enforcement of fishery rules, and
- WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 recreational red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and

Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby continues the recreational red snapper closure until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002, and

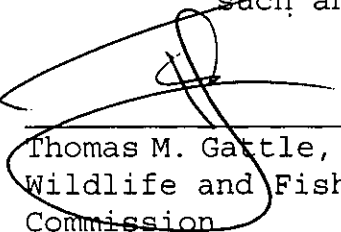
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the recreational red snapper season shall open at 12:01 a.m. on April 21 until midnight October 31, 2002, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to change the opening and closure dates of the recreational red snapper season if informed that the Federal dates are other than those specified in this resolution and attached declaration of emergency, and

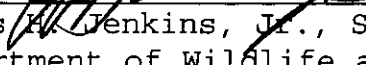
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to close the recreational red snapper season when he is informed that the recreational red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to open an additional recreational red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is later informed that the National Marine Fisheries Service has opened an additional recreational season and to close such season when he is informed that the recreational red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate such an emergency rule.



Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission



James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Recreational Red Snapper Season

The red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is cooperatively managed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council). Regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore. Rules were established by NMFS to close recreational harvest season in the EEZ off of Louisiana effective midnight October 31, 2001 until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero, and NMFS requested that consistent regulations be established in Louisiana waters. NMFS typically requests consistent regulations in order to enhance the effectiveness and enforceability of regulations for EEZ waters.

In order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 recreational red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following seasons for recreational harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters:

The season for the recreational fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will remain closed until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero for that time period. The season will open April 21, 2002 and continue until midnight October 31, 2002. If the secretary is notified that the opening and closing of Federal seasons is changed, he is hereby authorized to change the opening and closing dates for state waters accordingly.

Effective with the recreational red snapper season closure, any person, except those who possess a Class 1 or Class 2 commercial red snapper license issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service under the Federal Fishery Management Plan for the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish and who are legally taking red snapper during an open commercial season, shall not possess any red snapper whether taken from within or without Louisiana territorial waters.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

RESOLUTION

2002 RECREATIONAL RED SNAPPER SEASON

January 3, 2002.

WHEREAS, the red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and

WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore, and

WHEREAS, NMFS has put into place a regulatory amendment under the framework procedure of the reef fish fishery management plan that establishes a recreational red snapper quota equal to the recreational allocation, and authorizes the closure of the fishery for the remainder of the fishing year (= calendar year) in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico when the quota is reached or is projected to be reached, and

WHEREAS, the Gulf Council recommended to NMFS that the 2002 recreational quota for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico be set at 4.47 million pounds, and

WHEREAS, NMFS has closed the recreational fishing season for red snapper effective midnight October 31, 2001 until April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero in the EEZ off of Louisiana for that time period, and

WHEREAS, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has enacted a closure in Louisiana state waters consistent with the EEZ closure which is preferable as it assists in enforcement of fishery rules, and

WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 recreational red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and

Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby continues the recreational red snapper closure until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the recreational red snapper season shall open at 12:01 a.m. on April 21 until midnight October 31, 2002, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to change the opening and closure dates of the recreational red snapper season if informed that the Federal dates are other than those specified in this resolution and attached declaration of emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to close the recreational red snapper season when he is informed that the recreational red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to open an additional recreational red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is later informed that the National Marine Fisheries Service has opened an additional recreational season and to close such season when he is informed that the recreational red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate such an emergency rule.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Recreational Red Snapper Season

The red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is cooperatively managed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council). Regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore. Rules were established by NMFS to close recreational harvest season in the EEZ off of Louisiana effective midnight October 31, 2001 until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero, and NMFS requested that consistent regulations be established in Louisiana waters. NMFS typically requests consistent regulations in order to enhance the effectiveness and enforceability of regulations for EEZ waters.

In order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 recreational red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following seasons for recreational harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters:

The season for the recreational fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will remain closed until 12:01 a.m., April 21, 2002 by reducing the bag limit to zero for that time period. The season will open April 21, 2002 and continue until midnight October 31, 2002. If the secretary is notified that the opening and closing of Federal seasons is changed, he is hereby authorized to change the opening and closing dates for state waters accordingly.

Effective with the recreational red snapper season closure, any person, except those who possess a Class 1 or Class 2 commercial red snapper license issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service under the Federal Fishery Management Plan for the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish and who are legally taking red snapper during an open commercial season, shall not possess any red snapper whether taken from within or without Louisiana territorial waters.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

RESOLUTION

2002 COMMERCIAL RED SNAPPER SEASONS

January 3, 2002

- WHEREAS, the red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and
- WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore, and
- WHEREAS, rules will be established by NMFS, to provide for commercial harvest seasons for red snapper in the EEZ off of Louisiana, and
- WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries receives notice from the Gulf Council and NMFS requesting consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and
- WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 commercial red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby establishes the 2002 seasons for commercial harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters as follows: the first commercial fishing season for red snapper will open at 12 noon on February 1, 2002, and remain open until 12:00 noon on February 10. This pattern will continue each month until two-thirds of the 2002 commercial quota for red snapper is harvested. The second commercial red snapper season will open at 12 noon on October 1, 2002, and remain open until 12 noon on October 10, and will also continue in this format each

month until the entire 2002 quota is harvested. The minimum size limit for commercially harvested red snapper is 15 inches total length, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such closure order shall authorize the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 2002 commercial red snapper seasons in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that the designated portions of the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico have been filled, or are projected to be filled, for each set of seasons, and

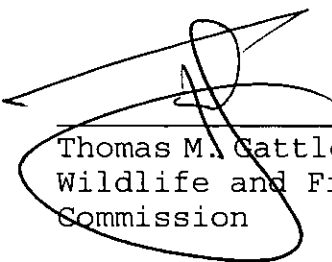
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such closure order shall close the season until the date set for the re-opening of the commercial red snapper season in Federal waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all applicable rules regarding red snapper harvest including trip limits, permit requirements, and size limits, established by the Commission shall be in effect during the open seasons hereby established, and

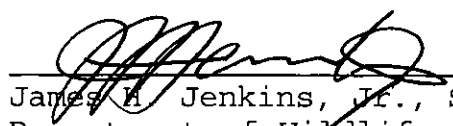
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the opening dates for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of red snapper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2002 commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.



Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission



James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Commercial Red Snapper Seasons

The red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is cooperatively managed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council). Regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore. NMFS will provide rules for commercial harvest seasons for red snapper in the EEZ off of Louisiana. NMFS and the Gulf Council typically request consistent regulations in order to enhance the effectiveness and enforceability of regulations for EEZ waters.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following season for commercial harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters:

The season for the commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will open at 12 noon February 1, 2002. The commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana waters will close at 12 noon February 10, 2002, and thereafter open at 12 noon on the

first of each month and close at 12 noon on the tenth of each month, for each month of 2002 until two-thirds (2/3) of the 2002 commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to set the closing date for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that two-thirds (2/3) of the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12 noon October 1, 2002, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2002 commercial red snapper season in Federal waters.

The season for the commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will re-open at 12 noon October 1, 2002. The commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana waters will close at 12 noon October 10, 2002, and thereafter open at 12 noon on the first of each month and close at 12 noon on the tenth of each month for each month of 2002, until the remainder of the 2002 commercial quota is harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to set the closing date for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested; such

closure order shall close the season until the date set for the opening of the year 2003 commercial red snapper season in Federal waters.

The Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the opening dates for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of red snapper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters.

Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of red snapper by legally licensed recreational fishermen. Effective with any commercial closure, no person shall commercially harvest, transport, purchase, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, barter, trade or sell red snapper. Effective with the closure, no person shall possess red snapper in excess of a daily bag limit. Provided however that fish in excess of the daily bag limit which were legally taken prior to the closure may be purchased, possessed, transported, and sold by a licensed wholesale/retail dealer if appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6 are properly maintained, and those other than wholesale/retail dealers may purchase such fish in excess of the daily bag limit from wholesale/retail dealers for their own use or for sale by a restaurant as prepared fish.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

RESOLUTION

2002 COMMERCIAL RED SNAPPER SEASONS

January 3, 2002

- WHEREAS, the red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and
- WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore, and
- WHEREAS, rules will be established by NMFS, to provide for commercial harvest seasons for red snapper in the EEZ off of Louisiana, and
- WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries receives notice from the Gulf Council and NMFS requesting consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and
- WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner so as to have compatible regulations in place in Louisiana waters for the 2002 commercial red snapper season, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby establishes the 2002 seasons for commercial harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters as follows: the first commercial fishing season for red snapper will open at 12 noon on February 1, 2002, and remain open until 12:00 noon on February 10. This pattern will continue each month until two-thirds of the 2002 commercial quota for red snapper is harvested. The second commercial red snapper season will open at 12 noon on October 1, 2002, and remain open until 12 noon on October 10, and will also continue in this format each

month until the entire 2002 quota is harvested. The minimum size limit for commercially harvested red snapper is 15 inches total length, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such closure order shall authorize the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 2002 commercial red snapper seasons in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that the designated portions of the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico have been filled, or are projected to be filled, for each set of seasons, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such closure order shall close the season until the date set for the re-opening of the commercial red snapper season in Federal waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all applicable rules regarding red snapper harvest including trip limits, permit requirements, and size limits, established by the Commission shall be in effect during the open seasons hereby established, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the opening dates for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of red snapper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2002 commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Commercial Red Snapper Seasons

The red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is cooperatively managed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council). Regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore. NMFS will provide rules for commercial harvest seasons for red snapper in the EEZ off of Louisiana. NMFS and the Gulf Council typically request consistent regulations in order to enhance the effectiveness and enforceability of regulations for EEZ waters.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following season for commercial harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters:

The season for the commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will open at 12 noon February 1, 2002. The commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana waters will close at 12 noon February 10, 2002, and thereafter open at 12 noon on the

first of each month and close at 12 noon on the tenth of each month, for each month of 2002 until two-thirds (2/3) of the 2002 commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to set the closing date for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that two-thirds (2/3) of the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12 noon October 1, 2002, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2002 commercial red snapper season in Federal waters.

The season for the commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana state waters will re-open at 12 noon October 1, 2002. The commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana waters will close at 12 noon October 10, 2002, and thereafter open at 12 noon on the first of each month and close at 12 noon on the tenth of each month for each month of 2002, until the remainder of the 2002 commercial quota is harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to set the closing date for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed that the commercial red snapper quota for the Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested; such

closure order shall close the season until the date set for the opening of the year 2003 commercial red snapper season in Federal waters.

The Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the opening dates for the commercial red snapper season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of red snapper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters.

Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of red snapper by legally licensed recreational fishermen. Effective with any commercial closure, no person shall commercially harvest, transport, purchase, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, barter, trade or sell red snapper. Effective with the closure, no person shall possess red snapper in excess of a daily bag limit. Provided however that fish in excess of the daily bag limit which were legally taken prior to the closure may be purchased, possessed, transported, and sold by a licensed wholesale/retail dealer if appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6 are properly maintained, and those other than wholesale/retail dealers may purchase such fish in excess of the daily bag limit from wholesale/retail dealers for their own use or for sale by a restaurant as prepared fish.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

RESOLUTION

2002 COMMERCIAL KING MACKEREL SEASON

January 3, 2002

WHEREAS, the king mackerel fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and

WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U. S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore, and

WHEREAS, NMFS requests consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters, which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and

WHEREAS, the 2002 commercial king mackerel season in EEZ waters will open on July 1, 2002, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons by emergency rule and R.S. 49:967 allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to set finfish seasons and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto by emergency rule, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby establishes the 2002 season for commercial harvest of king mackerel in Louisiana state waters to open at 12:01 a.m., July 1, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all applicable rules regarding the commercial king mackerel harvest including trip and size limits, established by the Commission shall be in effect during the open season hereby established, and

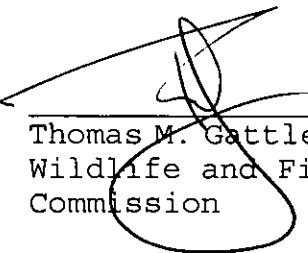
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed by NMFS that the commercial king mackerel quota for the Western Gulf of

Mexico has been harvested or is projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2003, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2003 commercial king mackerel season in Federal waters.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also authorizes the Secretary to open an additional commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed that NMFS has opened an additional season and to close such season when he is informed that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2002 commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.



Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission



James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Commercial King Mackerel Season

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto by emergency rule, and R.S. 56:6(25)(a) and 56:326.3 which provide that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following season and trip limit for the commercial harvest of king mackerel in Louisiana state waters:

The commercial season for king mackerel in Louisiana state waters will open at 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2002 and remain open until the allotted portion of the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or is projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2003, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2003 commercial king

mackerel season in Federal waters.

The Commission also authorizes the Secretary to open an additional commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed that NMFS has opened an additional season and to close such season when he is informed that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled.

Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of king mackerel by legally licensed recreational fishermen. Effective with any closure, no person shall commercially harvest, transport, purchase, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, barter, trade or sell king mackerel. Effective with the closure, no person shall possess king mackerel in excess of a daily bag limit. Provided however that fish in excess of the daily bag limit which were legally taken prior to the closure may be purchased, possessed, transported, and sold by a licensed wholesale/retail dealer if appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6 are properly maintained. Those other than wholesale/retail dealers may purchase such fish in excess of the daily bag limit from wholesale/retail dealers for their own use or for sale by a restaurant as prepared fish.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

RESOLUTION

2002 COMMERCIAL KING MACKEREL SEASON

January 3, 2002

WHEREAS, the king mackerel fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and

WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U. S., which in Louisiana is generally three miles offshore, and

WHEREAS, NMFS requests consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters, which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and

WHEREAS, the 2002 commercial king mackerel season in EEZ waters will open on July 1, 2002, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons by emergency rule and R.S. 49:967 allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to set finfish seasons and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto by emergency rule, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby establishes the 2002 season for commercial harvest of king mackerel in Louisiana state waters to open at 12:01 a.m., July 1, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all applicable rules regarding the commercial king mackerel harvest including trip and size limits, established by the Commission shall be in effect during the open season hereby established, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed by NMFS that the commercial king mackerel quota for the Western Gulf of

Mexico has been harvested or is projected to be harvested; such closure order shall close the season until 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2003, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2003 commercial king mackerel season in Federal waters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also authorizes the Secretary to open an additional commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed that NMFS has opened an additional season and to close such season when he is informed that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2002 commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this resolution.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2002 Commercial King Mackerel Season

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto by emergency rule, and R.S. 56:6(25)(a) and 56:326.3 which provide that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish; the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the following season and trip limit for the commercial harvest of king mackerel in Louisiana state waters:

The commercial season for king mackerel in Louisiana state waters will open at 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2002 and remain open until the allotted portion of the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or projected to be harvested.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters when he is informed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been harvested or is projected to be harvested, such closure order shall close the season until 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2003, which is the date expected to be set for the re-opening of the 2003 commercial king

mackerel season in Federal waters.

The Commission also authorizes the Secretary to open an additional commercial king mackerel season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed that NMFS has opened an additional season and to close such season when he is informed that the commercial king mackerel quota for the western Gulf of Mexico has been filled, or is projected to be filled.

Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of king mackerel by legally licensed recreational fishermen. Effective with any closure, no person shall commercially harvest, transport, purchase, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, barter, trade or sell king mackerel. Effective with the closure, no person shall possess king mackerel in excess of a daily bag limit. Provided however that fish in excess of the daily bag limit which were legally taken prior to the closure may be purchased, possessed, transported, and sold by a licensed wholesale/retail dealer if appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6 are properly maintained. Those other than wholesale/retail dealers may purchase such fish in excess of the daily bag limit from wholesale/retail dealers for their own use or for sale by a restaurant as prepared fish.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.

Chairman

2001 Managed Either-Sex Deer Hunts

<u>AREA</u>		<u>HUNTER EFFORT</u>	<u>DEER KILL</u>
Alexander State Forest	(Muzzleloader)	708	67
Attakapas	(Sc)	736	49
Bayou Macon	(Lottery Hunt)	373	71
Bens Creek		583	23
Big Lake		1269	134
Bodcau	(Sc)	166	4
Boeuf		2006	193
Boise-Vernon	(Oct. 27-28)	2181	229
Buckhorn	(Lottery Hunt)	950	114
Dewey Wills		2367	96
Fort Polk	(Nov. 23-25)	2007	115
Grassy Lake		1336	56
Georgial Pacific		1329	192
Jackson-Bienville	(Daily Permit Hunt Only)	961	49
Loggy Bayou		458	55
Maurepas Swamp	(Sc)	550	85
Ouachita		499	52
Pearl River	(Sc)	665	18
Peason Ridge	(Sc)	Not Available	
Pomme De Terre		656	54
Red River/Three Rivers		4184	261
Russell Sage		690	43
Sabine	(Sc)	Not Available	
Sandy Hollow	(Sc)	209	6
Sherburne	(Two Hunts)	6649	411
Sicily Island Hills		327	24
Spring Bayou		773	41
Thistlethwaite		1745	58
Tunica Hills	(Muzzleloader- 3 days)	331	14
Union	(All Hunts)	1833	167
West Bay		2103	78
TOTALS		38,644	2759

Hunter Success= one deer per 14 Hunter Efforts

2001 Managed Deer Hunts- Wildlife Management Areas

Oct. 27-28

<u>Area</u>	<u># Hunters, 1st Day</u>	<u>Total Hunter Effort</u>	<u>Total Deer Kill</u>
Boise-Vernon	1259	2181	229
Union (lottery)	163	291	51
Totals	1422 Hunters one deer per 6 hunters 17% Hunter Success	2472 Hunter Efforts one deer per 9 HE	280 Deer

Nov. 3-4

<u>Area</u>	<u># Hunters, 1st Day</u>	<u>Total Hunter Effort</u>	<u>Total Deer Kill</u>
Jackson-Bienville	587	961	49
Union	287	475	34
West Bay	1271	2103	78
Totals	2145 Hunters one deer per 13 hunters 8% Hunter Success	3539 Hunter Efforts one deer per 22 HE	161 Deer

Lottery Hunts, Nov. 17-18

<u>Area</u>	<u># Hunters, 1st Day</u>	<u>Total Hunter Effort</u>	<u>Total Deer Kill</u>
Bayou Macon	229/300/300 *	373	71
Buckhorn	550/654/900 *	950 (est.)	114
Totals	779 Hunters one deer per 4 hunters 25% Hunter Success	1323 Hunter Efforts one deer per 7 HE	185 Deer

* [# hunters 1st day/ total hunters selected/ total available slots]

Muzzleloader Hunts, Alexander State Forest

<u>Date</u>	<u># Hunters, 1st Day</u>	<u>Total Hunter Effort</u>	<u>Total Deer Kill</u>
Oct. 27-28	273	461	57
Nov. 10-11	153	247	10
Totals	426 Hunters one deer per 6 hunters 17% Hunter Success	708 Hunter Efforts one deer per 11 HE	67 Deer

Either-Sex, Thanksgiving Hunts, Nov. 23-25

<u>Area</u>	<u>#Hunters, 1st Day</u>	<u>Total Hunter Effort</u>	<u>Total Deer Kill</u>
Attakapas (sc)	408	736	49(12)
Bens Creek	242	442	19
Big Lake	728	1269	134
Bodcau (sc)	NA	166	4
Boeuf	1179	2006	193
Dewey Wills	1207	2367	96
Fort Polk	755	2007	115
Grassy Lake	744	1336	56
Georgia Pacific	509	1329	192
Jackson-Bienville (sc)	NA	203	4
Loggy Bayou	190	458	55
Maurepas Swamp (sc)	207	550	85(17)
Ouachita	230	499	52
Pearl River (sc)	452	665	18
Pomme de Terre	376	656	54
Red River/ Three Rivers	2308	4184	261
Russell Sage	316	690	43
Sandy Hollow (sc)	87	209	6
Sherburne	1650	4061	183
Sicily Island Hills	218	327	24
Spring Bayou	371	773	41
Thistlethwaite	625	1745	58
Tunica Hills (sc/ml)	156	331	14
Totals	12,958 Hunters	27,009 Hunter Efforts	1756 Deer
	one deer per 7 Hunters	one deer per 16 HE	
	14% Hunter Success		

Buck Only Hunts, Nov. 25

<u>Area</u>	<u># Hunter Efforts</u>	<u>#Bucks Killed</u>
Bens Creek	141	4
Pearl River	115	4
Big Lake	125 (est.)	5 (est., checked 3)
Boeuf	153 (est.)	10 (est., checked 4)
Sicily Island Hills	36 (est.)	0 (est., none checked)
Red River/ Three Rivers	321 (est.)	13 (est., 10 checked)
Totals	891 Hunter Efforts	36 Bucks killed (est.)

Either-Sex Hunt, Dec. 1-2, Sherburne WMA

<u># Hunters, 1st Day</u>	<u>Total Hunter Effort</u>	<u>Total Deer Kill</u>
1521	2588	228
one deer per 7 Hunters	one deer per 11 HE	
14% Hunter Success		

Remarks: Managed deer hunts for this year show a direct relationship to weather patterns. The Area 2 muzzleloader season opened on Oct. 27. A cold front had moved into the state at this time and hunting conditions were good as indicated by the success on Boise Vernon and Union. As the week progressed a warming trend developed which continued through the opening of the Area 2 gun season on Nov. 3. The three wma hunts held on this weekend were not very productive at all. Warm weather continued through the month of November and hunter success during the traditional Thanksgiving hunts was limited. One of the areas having a successful hunt was Georgia Pacific. Larry Savage pulled reproductive tracts from does during this hunt and found ovulation was occurring. Reproductive tracts were collected from Sherburne does also but no breeding activity was found. The three day hunt on Sherburne resulted in a harvest of 183 deer. A second hunt was held the following weekend. Another cold front had moved into the state and the total kill for the first day of this hunt was 183. There was a total of 12,958 hunters for the first day of the Thanksgiving hunts. If we estimate another 1000 for those areas having self-clearing hunts the total number of hunters participating in the two and three day hunts was 14,000. This is down from past seasons. The total hunter effort of 38,644, total deer kill of 2,748, and hunter success of one deer per 14 efforts is somewhat less than the average for the past ten years, 1991-2000. The averages for this decade were 42,041 hunter efforts, 3,364 deer killed, one deer per 13 hunter efforts. The hunters who use our wmas are very mobile. On the Nov. 3 hunt at Jackson-Bienville many hunters commented that they had hunted Boise-Vernon the weekend before. At Sherburne during the Thanksgiving hunts we had hunters check in the second day who had been to West Bay, Big Lake, Pearl River, and Sicily Island Hills. During the bucks-only deer check on Jackson-Bienville on Dec. 15 I talked to a hunter who normally hunts Russell Sage but because of the flooding had come to JB. Another hunter told me he usually bow hunts on Soda Lake but had heard about JB and had come over to look around. I appreciate everyone who gave assistance to LSU with their bacteria project. They have cultured several strains of bacteria from these deer and once they get some results I will pass it on to you.

DMAP Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 2

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

September 2001



*By Donald "Duck" Locascio, Jr.
Region 4 Wildlife Forester*

Donald Locascio, Jr.

DMAP

DMAP 20-Years Old (1981-2001)

By Larry Savage, DMAP Coordinator

In the late-1970's, LDWF biologists recognized a ground-swell interest in the intensive management of deer on private lands (82% of LA's deer habitat). Parish either-sex seasons were the ~~primary LDWF tool used to balance deer~~ populations over large areas. These seasons were conservative in many cases and publicly unpopular in many areas.

The heart and soul of deer management is the controlled harvest of females. No programs were available, at that time, to allow individual landowners/clubs the latitude of customizing their deer harvest, particularly those with low hunting pressure and high deer numbers. It was difficult, if not impossible, to legally harvest enough females using "doe-days" to accomplish desired management goals (improving deer health, reducing habitat damage, or increasing buck age structure).

In 1981 LDWF initiated a statewide program called Intensive Deer Management to provide technical assistance to landowners/clubs. This voluntary program provided a vehicle for interested landowners and LDWF biologists (with 40 years of hands-on deer management experience) to work together. **Due to landowner/club interest this program took off** (see "*Landowner Support*" below for details). With only one minor speed bump (institution of DMAP fees in 1990) along the way, DMAP enrollment increased until 1997. DMAP participation the past four years appears to be stabilizing at about 2.5 million acres --- roughly 15% of the state's deer habitat (see pie chart).

The popularity of DMAP, a volunteer program with fees, indicates that it was the right program at the right time. Many of the other 15 southeastern states provide similar private-land programs that are also very popular with motivated deer managers.

DMAP has been mutually beneficial. DMAP cooperators have provided LDWF with many opportunities:

- Wildlife professionals are placed in contact with landowners/clubs interested in wise management of wildlife and habitat resources, opening a direct line of communication.
- Hard-working DMAP hunters have provided LDWF with management data on 478,654 deer that would have been otherwise impossible to obtain. These data along with WMA information are used to develop detailed management recommendations for each of the State's nine basic deer habitat types.
- Biologists have the opportunity to conduct habitat surveys in all the State's habitats.

LDWF has attempted to provide DMAP cooperators with:

- Professional technical assistance and the flexibility (DMAP antlerless tags) to achieve deer management goals based on the desires of landowners/clubs.
- Provide information and guidance that allows cooperators to learn more about deer and habitat management.
- Improve the recreational enjoyment of the State's deer resources.
- Provide a means for population reduction to prevent unwanted browse damage.

Also, by practicing sound deer management, DMAP cooperators provide help to many unsuspecting Louisiana citizens.

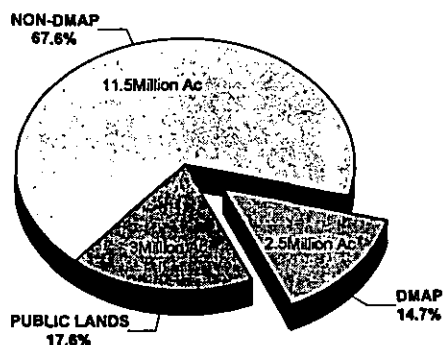
- Proper ecological balance between deer and habitat benefits many wildlife species including birds, small mammals, reptiles and amphibians.
- Reduced vehicle deer collisions on LA highways and airports
- Reduced damage to crops and forest regeneration.

What's in the future for DMAP? Profound changes in deer hunters and deer management occurred in the last 20 years. The same magnitude of change is expected in the next 20 years, driven by the increasing enthusiasm for white-tailed deer

and intensive deer management. LDWF will conduct mail surveys in October 2001, to assess desires, expectations and perceptions of current DMAP cooperators. Deer harvest trends the last 10 years suggest quality buck management is the direction increasing numbers of cooperators want to go. This is illustrated not only by the selection of management objectives (DMAP application), but also by actions – increased doe harvest and more selective buck harvest (see DMAP Harvest 2000). LDWF's professional biologist will continue to assist current and future DMAP cooperators with the development of realistic management expectations (based on the natural productivity of LA's habitats) and with the implementation of practical deer management plans based on sound biology.

LA DEER HABITAT

17 Million Acres



Landowner Support Ensures DMAP Success

By David Moreland, Deer Program Manager

Following a summer deer collection in 1978, I met with John D. Newsom in his office on the LSU campus. Mr. Newsom, or John D., as he was commonly called, was in charge of the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit in the School of Forestry and Wildlife. Mr. Newsom had previously worked many years for the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and was actively involved with the state's deer management program. One of our topics of discussion was the idea of a program that would allow landowners the opportunity to achieve a higher antlerless deer harvest than what could be achieved by just using doe days. In the fall of 1979 such an experimental program was

developed by LSU and tested on the Lottie Wildlife Protective Association in Pointe Coupee Parish. In 1980 the program was tried again on Lottie and on Beechgrove Plantation in East Feliciana Parish. As District Supervisor of Region 7 (Florida Parishes), I had the opportunity to work firsthand with this program. In 1981 the program was initiated across the state and was called the Intensive Deer Management Program. Later, as the program developed, the name was changed to Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP).

Mr. John W. Barton, a prominent Baton Rouge businessman, sportsman, and civic leader, is the owner of Beechgrove Plantation and one of the founders of the Lottie Wildlife Protective Association. Both Beechgrove and Lottie have been enrolled in the program since 1981. Mr. Barton has generously allowed deer biologists access to these properties for deer research and management studies. Both areas have been quite successful with their deer management programs. Since the 1980 season, there have been 3,009 does harvested from Beechgrove Plantation. If one assumes an average doe weight of 90 pounds, the mixed pine/hardwood forest on Beechgrove has produced 135 tons of venison. The present doe harvest of one per 36 acres is one of the highest in the state and is an example of what can be achieved through a sound deer management program that includes management of the herd and the forested habitat.

Mr. Barton's contribution to the deer management program over the past 21 years has been one of the reasons for DMAP being so successful. His willingness to cooperate with biologists on research and management studies has provided the Department with important biological data for management of the state's deer herd. Studies done on Beechgrove include determination of breeding season dates, scraping and rubbing activity of bucks, disease and parasite studies, and most recently, Mr. Barton allowed the Department access to Beechgrove for a rabbit parasite study.

This cooperation and willingness of Mr. Barton is not new to the Department. In 1982 the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission recognized Mr. Barton

for his outstanding contribution toward the restoration of the wild turkey in Louisiana. With this type of landowner support, the deer program in this state will continue to be a success. We thank Mr. Barton, along with several other landowners, who have supported this Department and the deer program for the past twenty years.

DMAP Charter Membership

By Larry Savage, DMAP Coordinator

In 1981 a total of 129 clubs/landowners joined a fledgling LDWF program called Intensive Deer Management. A lot of water has gone under the bridge since then-- land-use changes, habitat changes, and changes in deer hunters' attitudes and deer savvy. DMAP membership changes every year with about a 15% turnover rate as new and old cooperators come and go from the program.

One thing that has been constant is the pursuit of sound deer herd management by one group of DMAP cooperators, the Charter members. Properly done, deer management is a long-term commitment, and this group has been tenacious. A partial list of the Charter DMAP Members that joined the program in 1981 and have participated continuously for the last 20 years is provided. This represents a minimum of almost 30% of the original clubs.

Region 1- Minden

- | | |
|----------------------|---------|
| 1. Palmer/Hebert/CPR | Webster |
|----------------------|---------|

Region 2 - Monroe

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 1. Bosco Fine Arts Society | Ouachita |
|----------------------------|----------|

Region 4 - Ferriday

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Cotton Wood HC | Concordia |
| 2. Lone Bluff HC | Caldwell |
| 3. Crawford HC | Catahoula |
| 4. Bucknutz HC | Concordia |
| 5. Thomas Wildlife HC | Concordia |
| 6. Paw Paw HC | Madison |
| 7. Caster Creek Head
Hunters HC | Caldwell |
| 8. Donald HC | Madison |

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| 9. White Oak HC | Tensas |
| 10. Winter Quarters HC | Tensas |
| 11. ToGo HC | Tensas |
| 12. Big Ten HC | Concordia |
| 13. Blackhawk Plantation | Concordia |
| 14. Womack HC | Concordia |

Region 5 - Lake Charles

- | | |
|------------------------|------------|
| 1. Old Hickory Jack HC | Calcasieu |
| 2. Beaver Creek HC | Evangeline |
| 3. Pettit Lease | Vermillion |
| 4. Gertrude HC | Vermillion |

Region 6 - Opelousas

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Red Diamond HC | Iberville |
| 2. R.H. Miller HC | Iberville |
| 3. Briar Patch HC | Iberville |
| 4. Deer Lake HC | Iberville |
| 5. Lottie Wildl. Assoc. | Pointe Coupee |
| 6. High Chaparral HC | Pointe Coupee |
| 7. Balley Hack HC | Pointe Coupee |
| 8. Ramsey Plantation | Pointe Coupee |
| 9. RAL HC | St. Martin |
| 10. Choctaw HC | W. Baton Rouge |
| 11. Baist HC | W. Baton Rouge |
| 12. Grand Bayou HC | W. Baton Rouge |
| 13. Raccourci Island
(orig. Rex&Tina HC) | W. Feliciana |

Region 7 - Baton Rouge

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Beechgrove Plantation | E. Feliciana |
| 2. Zemurray Park | Tangipahoa |

Due to LDWF personnel changes and DMAP records' archiving, some charter members may have been overlooked. Please contact Larry Savage (225/765-2308) if you've been missed.

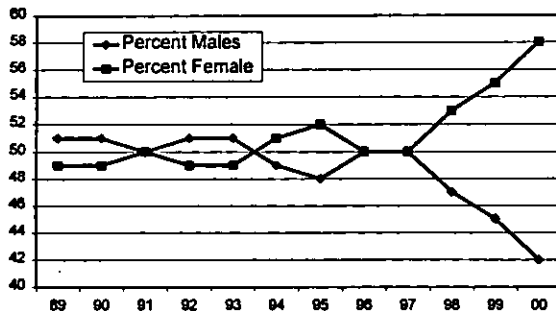
DMAP Harvest 2000 - 2001

By Larry Savage, LDWF DMAP Coordinator

The 2000-2001 DMAP deer harvest was remarkably similar to last year's. Cooperators (1,335) reported harvesting 30,073 deer from 2,559,342 DMAP acres. This is a total harvest rate of one deer per 85 acres (identical to 1999). The highest reported harvest rate was 1 / 80 acres. Above average harvest rates the last two years are

driven by the increased harvest of does, demonstrating that DMAP participants are interested in sound deer management; i.e., working towards the goal of balancing the sex ratios within their deer herds. This year's harvest sex ratio was 58% females and 42% males. This female proportion of the harvest was the highest ever recorded in the program.

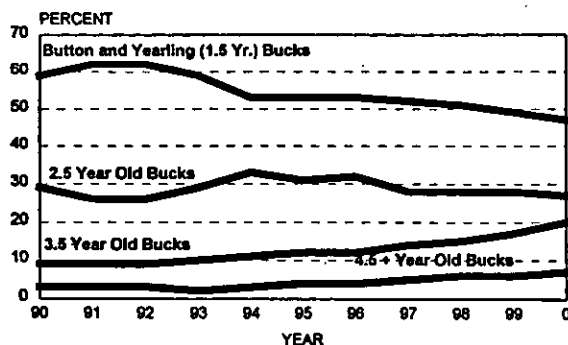
Louisiana DMAP
Harvest Sex
Ratio



The 2000 female harvest rate (1 female/147 acres) was above the 1990-1999 average while male harvest rate was about average (1 male/203 acres). The harvest trend indicates that DMAP cooperators are increasingly practicing quality buck management on voluntary bases by harvesting more does while limiting the harvest of young bucks. The harvest of young bucks (6 months & 1.5 yrs.) continues to decline. Bucks 2.5 years old have been harvested at a fairly stable rate while an increase in the percentage of 3.5 years and older bucks is evident.

Buck Age Structure

DMAP 1990 - 2000



Corbett Hunting Club, Avoyelles Parish, 2000-2001

New Regulations for 2001 - 2002

Muzzleloader Scopes – During the special muzzleloader segments of the 2001 – 2002 deer season, muzzleloader rifles may be fitted with magnified scope for the first time.

Tracking Dogs – Except in wildlife management areas, a leashed dog may be used to trail and retrieve wounded or unrecovered deer during legal hunting hours. Any dog used to trail or retrieve wounded or unrecovered deer shall have on a collar with owner's name, address, and phone number. In addition, a dog may be used to trail and retrieve unrecovered deer after legal hunting hours; however, no person accompanying a dog after legal hunting hours may carry a firearm of any sort.

Deer biologist, Charles Ruth, recently conducted research on the effectiveness of tracking dogs in recovering deer in South Carolina's dense coastal plain habitat. The particulars of 493 deer kills were recorded. Fifty-one percent (253) of the deer dropped where shot and 49 % (240) ran. Researchers believe trained dogs were responsible for the recovery of 15 to 20 % of the deer that ran. Dogs were credited with finding all 24 deer that displayed no evidence of being hit yet fell in thick brush within 152 yards of the shot. (22nd Southeast Deer Study Group meeting 1999).

DEER RESEARCH/BIOLOGY

Breeding Biology Study Southwest Louisiana

By John Robinette, Region V Supervisor

Southwest Louisiana consists of Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Evangeline, Jefferson Davis, Vermilion and Vernon Parishes. The habitat ranges from coastal marshes, vast agricultural land and historical longleaf pine areas with scattered hardwood river and creek bottoms. Much of the longleaf pine area has been converted to large loblolly pine plantations. Sandy soils are of poor fertility, which have a great influence on deer populations and overall size of deer. For many years, there was no deer hunting in much of this area due to poor or no habitat for deer. As the deer habitat improved and deer populations increased, deer seasons were developed. Portions of southwest Louisiana developed into a "still hunting only" deer hunting zone (Area 3) in the early 1950's because it was thought that hunting deer with the aid of dogs would be detrimental to the newly developing deer herds. With the exception of some portions of Allen, Beauregard, Evangeline and Vernon Parishes that are located in the Area 2 deer hunting zone, "still hunting only" continues today. Deer populations are considered good across these habitats with deer size considered average. Mature bucks average 140 lbs. live weight with an occasional 200 pounder and mature females average 90 lbs. live weight.

Breeding studies from the 1960's showed that deer breed from September through January with the peak breeding occurring in mid-October. Breeding activities were studied again in the mid-1990's. Harvest data from Wildlife Management Areas and DMAP clubs, reproductive tracks from harvested does, and scraping activities by bucks were used to estimate breeding periods. Some interesting information was discovered but the study basically re-affirmed the 1960's findings.

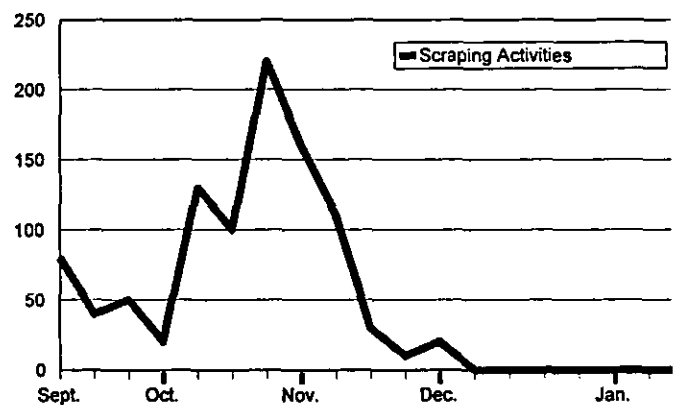
Buck scraping behavior was monitored in Vernon Parish from mid-September through January, 1995-96. Motion sensor cameras were placed at active scrapes. The graph illustrates the recorded

deer scraping activities, which are typical for much of southwest Louisiana. Many deer visited the scrape sites, but most occurred at night. Peak scraping activity occurred in mid- to late October and was over by mid-November.

The information gathered from the collection of female reproductive tracks showed breeding occurs from September to January, but the peak breeding occurred October 16-31. These data were obtained by measuring fetus lengths. The length of the fetus is used to determine age. Date of conception is determined by backdating from date of harvest. This technique allows biologists to determine breeding date with high degree of confidence.

Region 5

Scraping Activities



Breeding dates in southwest Louisiana are spread out over several months due to several biological factors. Female deer go into an estrus cycle (heat) in the fall in response to declining daylength. Females ovulate and can become pregnant only during the next 24-36 hours. If she is not mated during this period, she will go into heat again in 28 days. She can have as many as three heat periods during a season. Distorted sex ratios (high females/low bucks) cause breeding to occur over several months. The gestation or pregnancy period for deer is about 200 days (<7 months). If does become pregnant in September or October, these deer give birth in early April or May. Doe fawns can be bred at six months, so these early born does can have their first estrus cycle from November through January. Does bred late in the year have

their off spring born June through August. Fawns retain their spots for four months. This explains why deer hunters see some does with large fawns and others with spotted fawns in the fall. Reducing doe numbers can shorten breeding period and assure deer are bred within the normal months of October and November in southwest Louisiana.

Overall, the doe/fawn ratios are high across southwest Louisiana and habitat conditions are stable to improving. Bucks weights and antler development have improved on many DMAP clubs. Quality Deer Management (QDM) has become a hot topic across the state, even in southwest Louisiana. However, deer hunters need to remember that deer quality is a product of the habitat and its soil fertility. Unfortunately, southwest Louisiana has some of the poorest soils in the state. Improving deer habitat or range conditions can be accomplished, but it usually takes lots of annual work and money. Body growth and antler development is greatly reduced on low quality habitat sites. Consequently, gains in antler mass and live weight are low. Restrictive buck regulations with respect to antlers would probably not accomplish very much in this region of the state. Buck antler quality can be improved through proper deer harvest and habitat improvements, but large numbers of "trophy antler" (Boone and Crockett) deer will never be produced in this part of Louisiana.

When the Best Time to Harvest a Deer?

By John Robinette, Region V Supervisor

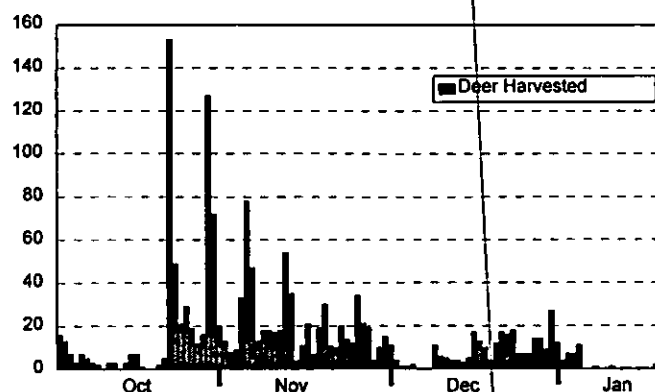
When is the best time of the year to hunt and have a good chance to harvest a deer in southwest Louisiana?

Well, the first answer is when the deer season is open and you can go. Information gathered from over 250 DMAP clubs in southwest Louisiana, show that the bulk of the deer harvest occurs during the first couple of weeks of the deer season. This coincides with the rut, when deer are most active. Data further illustrates that higher deer harvest occurs on weekends rather than weekdays. Each deer harvest peak is on Saturday, but the

peaks decrease as the season progresses. This is no great mystery, because many people hunt the opening weekend and can only hunt deer on weekends.

DMAP Region V

1995-96 Deer Harvest



Daily Harvest both Area 2 and 3

Deer harvest declines later in the year for many reasons, here are few:

- Hunters have harvested deer and reduced the number of deer
- Deer become more nocturnal in their activities as the disturbance in the woods by hunters increase
- Rutting activities decrease
- The deer metabolism rate slows during winter months so they become less active
- Many hunters quit hunting deer after they harvest one or two deer (less hunters in the woods)
- Many hunters do not like to hunt in the colder wet weather late in the season.

There's always a chance to harvest a deer any time during the deer hunting season in your area, but harvest data show that you will have a better opportunity early in the season.

Area 2 Breeding Study-Preliminary Report

By Jeremy White, ULM Biology and Larry Savage, DMAP Coordinator

Thanks to an excellent effort by DMAP volunteers over 1,000 reproductive tracts were collected in the first year of the Area 2 breeding study in northwest LA. Also included in this sample were

specimens donated at check stations by hunters on Bodcau, Jackson Bienville, Loggy Bayou, Georgia Pacific, and Union WMAs.

Preliminary results for all 14 Parishes are grouped. Overall, ovulation and breeding peaked the last two weeks in November. However, pockets of December breeding may be occurring in Bienville Parish and southern Bossier Parish. With another good sample from the 2001-2002 hunting season, data should be available from this two-year study to better delineate breeding dates regionally within this Area.

LDWF and the ULM Biology Department would like to extend a special thanks to everyone that assisted with last year's collection. With ULM's instructional video in hand, DMAP hunters were able to extract complete reproductive tracts with excellent precision. New clubs that wish to participate are encouraged to call Jeremy White (318-342-1793), Larry Savage (225-765-0823), or the Regional LDWF offices at Pineville, Monroe, and Minden. All supplies necessary for data collection will be provided. We really need additional clubs (DMAP or non-DMAP) to sample deer from Caddo, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River and Winn Parishes.

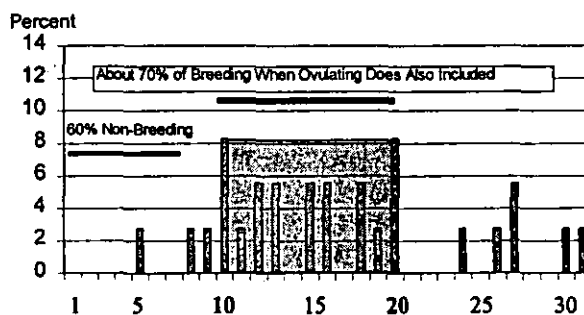
Area 6 (Upper Basin) Breeding Study

By David Moreland, Deer Program Manager

A study was initiated by the Deer Study Program and Region 6 Wildlife Division to investigate the breeding season of white-tailed deer in the upper Atchafalaya Basin which included the parishes of Avoyelles, Pointe Coupee, St. Landry, and Iberville. Most of this land is within Area 6, however, the upper portion of Avoyelles is in Area 1. The study involved the examination of ovaries from reproductive tracts collected during the hunting season on Grand Lake Rod and Gun Club in Avoyelles parish, the Red Diamond Hunting Club in Iberville parish, and the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area. About 130 reproductive tracts were collected from 1999 to 2001.

The breeding dates developed from additional does collected March-July 2000 and 2001 for this study indicate a later breeding season for deer in this area of Louisiana. Breeding ranged from Dec. 17- Feb. 22 with peak breeding occurring Jan. 10-20 (67% of deer that bred in January and 50% of the sample). Little breeding activity was recorded prior to or after January (< 20% of the activity). Fawning dates would range from July to mid-September based on these data with peak fawning during late July to early August.

Area 6 - Basin Study
January Breeding Chronology



Why is the breeding season later in this area of the state? One possible explanation is that the historical backwater flooding that this area would experience in late spring and early summer (May-July) may have, over time, moved the deer into this late breeding schedule. The Atchafalaya Basin historically was the floodplain for several major river systems including the Red River, Ouachita River, Tensas River, Black River, Atchafalaya River, and the Mississippi River. This floodplain served as a backwater area for these rivers and no doubt remained flooded long after the rivers had returned to normal water levels. If the does fawned in May or June, the fawn crop would have been eliminated by the flooding. The late breeding and subsequent late fawning may have developed in response to the flooding. According to records of LDWF, there were few deer releases made in the Basin. Consequently, the deer herd that has become established is from the original stock that occurred there. Another possible explanation is that this area of the state has historically maintained high deer populations. Research has documented that breeding occurs later in over-populated deer herds because does often are not bred during their 1st estrus cycle. The mid-late

February breeding dates documented likely either reflect this phenomena or late-born does not maturing until this time.

The ovulation rate determined by this study was 1.8 ova per doe. The percent implantation (the number of fetuses produced from the eggs ovulated) was 90%. The Area 4 study found an ovulation rate of 1.96 and 92% implantation. The breeding activity in this area results in a successful pregnancy for the majority of the adult does. Consequently the barren does which hunters frequently speak of is somewhat of a mythical creature. This study found an average of 1.6 fetuses per doe. In the Area 4 study there was an average of 1.9 fetuses per doe, which is exceptionally good. The productivity determined from this study is good.

Although overall productivity appears good, this study did find some problems concerning herd health in these parishes. Collections were conducted on various habitat sites and on land where different levels of deer management were being applied. Deer taken on areas with bottomland hardwood forests surrounded by agricultural crops exhibited the best herd health and had the highest productivity. Deer taken on predominately forested areas had lower body weights and lower productivity.

Photoperiod (Date) vs Moon Phase

Does Moon Phase Chronology Determine White-tailed Deer Breeding Dates?

Authors - 15 Deer Biologists from Georgia, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, South Carolina, Texas, Maine and Minnesota. 24th Annual Meeting Southeast Deer Study Group, Feb. 2001, St. Louis, Missouri.

The Primary factors affecting deer breeding dates are:

- Photo period (season and latitude)
- Population demographics (sex and age structure)
- Genetics????
- Nutrition (deer condition)
- Other selective pressures (weather, insects, etc.)

Should moon phase be added to these? A cause

and effect has not been demonstrated.

Despite considerable speculation, the potential influence of moon phases on white-tailed deer breeding chronology has not received serious scientific inquiry. Previous reports relating moon phases to breeding dates have represented only a few deer or were based on fawning dates, which are highly variable. We examined relationships of moon phase chronology and known estrous dates for over 100 captive deer from Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Virginia. Also, the known breeding dates for over 2,500 does from populations in South Carolina, Texas, Mississippi, Missouri, Maine, Minnesota, and Michigan (with between 3 and 19 years data for each population) were evaluated.

We compared conception dates among years based on Julian date (photoperiod) and moon phase.

Conclusions:

- Photoperiod is better than moon phase for predicting annual mean breeding dates for deer populations.
- Moon phase provides unreliable predictions regardless of latitude.
- Photoperiod is better than moon phase for predicting annual breeding dates of individual deer.

Bottom line: Moon phase has little influence on deer breeding (*conception*) at the individual deer or deer population level.

HABITAT

Monitoring Mast Production within a Forest

By Cody Cedotal, Forest Stewardship Biologist and Kenny Ribbeck, Forestry Section, Biologist Programs Manager

"Man, what's wrong? The deer are usually standing in line to get to this area!", the hunter wonders as he patiently waits on opening day of deer season while overlooking one of the most gorgeous white oak bottoms in the southeast. The spoiler in this situation is a combination of poor

scouting and poor acorn production. Mast production is of extreme importance to many wildlife species. Hard and soft mast from forest tree and shrub species are essential components of the diet of wildlife species such as songbirds, squirrels, Louisiana black bear, wild turkey, and especially white-tailed deer. These are just a few species that depend heavily on mast production within a forest. Deer utilize fruit such as acorns, berries, pomes, and drupes as a source of nutrients in their daily diet. Therefore, knowledge of the past, present, and future year's seed crop condition can be valuable when evaluating the health of a deer herd as well as making general population predictions.

A mast production survey is a quantitative means of comparing one year's seed crop to another year's seed crop. This can be done using several methods. A simple visual assessment is often the easiest and most cost effective. Visual assessments are not too labor intensive and produce the best results if performed by the same individual each year. Choosing the species and number of trees to be sampled each year is the first step in the process. This list will be site-specific to each landowner based on his or her objectives for the survey, size of the property, and the species diversity found on the property. For example, take a landowner with 40 acres in Tensas Parish, and with wildlife management, white-tailed deer as a primary objective. The species list for this property may consist of the following species: Nuttall oak, willow oak, water oak, overcup oak, bitter pecan, sugarberry, and common persimmon. (Note: This is just an example, the list may contain more or less species). This 40-acre property is relatively small and thus only 3-5 trees of each species are a sufficient sample. If the property were larger, say 10,000 acres, a larger sample (at least 10) of each species is required. Individual trees should be selected based on age/maturity, vigor, and in some instances, fruiting potential. Some species such as common persimmon are dioecious (separate male and female trees). Selected survey trees should be dispersed over the entire tract, marked and visited each year for assessment. Avoid establishing survey trees along roadsides and cleared rights-of-way. Factors that

influence mast production, such as competition and moisture availability are different in these areas than those experienced 100 feet away in the forest interior.

In Louisiana, mast production surveys are performed during the last week of September, although the actual selection and marking of your sample trees can be done much earlier. At this time, the fruit or seed is nearly mature on most tree species and can easily be seen with 8x-12x binoculars. (American elm, which fruits in the spring, is an exception; therefore, make sure the biology of each species selected is considered beforehand.) Species in the red oak and pine families require two years for fruit to reach maturity. As a result, a forecast of the next year's seed crop also can be obtained. On red oak species, immature acorns appear as small knots on the tips of the twigs or "new" growth, while the current year's crop will be further down the twig on last year's growth. Immature cones on pine species are smaller than mature cones and remain unopened throughout the fall. Assessing future year's seed provides only a forecast. Many factors can influence the seed crop between the time of the survey and seed maturity.

Examining the branches and twigs for seed development assesses each tree. The tree is then graded based on the amount of seed present. Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) personnel perform annual mast production surveys on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). Trees are graded on a scale of 0-3, 0 meaning that there is no mast present and 3 denoting those trees which contain high mast concentrations. Once all individuals are assessed, an average can be obtained for each species. This process provides an index for comparison when repeated yearly. It is also beneficial to record any abnormal weather conditions, such as drought or excessive rainfall or abnormally late spring freezes, which may have occurred each year. This supplemental information can provide insight to why a particular year may or may not be productive for a certain species.



Information obtained from a mast production survey can assist a landowner when making wildlife management decisions. Researchers in the Southern Appalachians found that in oak forests, deer weights, antler development, and population dynamics are directly related to acorn abundance. A Missouri study reported that over a five-year period, acorns accounted for 42.5 % of the diet of deer. Thus, the ability to predict a poor mast crop months in advance is a valuable wildlife management tool. This kind of information could aid in the "age-old" decision of how many and what types of food plots to plant for white-tailed deer and other wildlife.

The above example is just one way in which a mast production survey can benefit a landowner. Mast production surveys can be implemented by anyone with a basic knowledge of trees and/or a good tree identification manual. If as a landowner, you find yourself pressed for time as many of us do, wildlife and forestry consultants are often able to perform the duty as well. Mast production is of utmost importance to the forest and its wildlife. It is the way most trees regenerate and serve as a primary food source for many wildlife species. By monitoring the productivity of your forest, a landowner promotes forest stewardship and gains valuable knowledge about one of the many ecological processes within a forest.

Following his own advice (article above), LDWF wildlife forester, Kenny Ribbeck harvested this quality buck during the 1st muzzleloader split of the 2000-2001 season by knowing the location of delta post oak acorns. Kenny was hunting

McGowan Brake Club, a quality buck DMAP unit in Morehouse Parish. McGowan Brake is located in the Ouachita River bottom where the hardwood timber produced a poor acorn crop last year, except for delta post oak and water oak. Delta post oak is a small white oak acorn highly preferred by deer. Backwater and soil type restricts the distribution of delta post oak to the high ridges along the banks of the Ouachita River (background of photo). Kenny was still-hunting this narrow band of post oaks when he killed this 4.5-year-old 18" eight point weighting 220 pounds. A stomach examination revealed browse and post oak acorns as the buck's primary food items.



Kenny Ribbeck with post oak buck

PEOPLE

What You Don't See May Surprise You

By Wendell Smith, Region V Biologist

If you are not seeing as many bucks on your lease as you would like to, it does not necessarily mean that your deer density is low. This is the case for Bear Cove Hunting Club, a 3,900 acre DMAP cooperator located in northwest Calcasieu Parish. During the 2000-01 season, buck sightings were down. Hunters were simply not seeing much activity from their stands. As the membership grew nervous, a small group decided to set up motion cameras at various vantage points, predominantly looking over food plots, in order to ascertain whether or not bucks were indeed present on their lease.

The results of their research were shocking to the members. Motion cameras captured quite a number of good quality bucks with even more does frequenting food plots during the nighttime and early predawn. Their theory of "no bucks on the lease" soon vanished and the club members, anxiously awaited next years season.

Nocturnal movement is common with the onset of deer season. Disturbances created by hunters in the woods cause deer to become more concerned for their safety. Finally, with increased hunting pressure, adult deer will tend to revert to nighttime behavioral patterns. As we all know, hunting over food plots and feeders during this pattern of behavior will not yield many positive results. More traditional hunting techniques will have to be implemented. More time should be spent hunting thickets where deer trails and scrapes are present. Also concentrate on transition zones that offer escape cover because that is where they will be moving during times of high hunting pressure. Bear Cove Hunting Club as well as most other clubs will have to do just that in order to harvest some of these mature but wary bucks.



Photos Courtesy of Bear Cove HC



Photos Courtesy of Bear Cove HC

Photos Courtesy of Bear Cove HC



Photos Courtesy of Bear Cove HC

Note: Negative photo prints were all taken at night.

Quality Deer Abound at Outdoor Show

By David Moreland, Deer Program Manager

Over thirty Louisiana deer were measured at the Hunters Expo Outdoor Show, July 27-29, in Shreveport that will qualify for the Louisiana Big Game Recognition Program. David Moreland, Deer Program Manager, and Brian Martin, an official measurer from Natchitoches, coordinated the buck contest that was associated with the show. Over 60 deer heads were measured during the three-day event. Deer that qualified for listing in the recognition program had a minimum score of 130 points (typical class).

Twenty of these recognition deer were taken during the past two deer seasons. This is a good indication of the success that many hunting clubs and landowners are experiencing with their deer management programs. Ken Alford of Minden had the top Louisiana buck. Ken's buck scored 163 points on the Boone and Crockett scale, which will qualify him not only for the state record list (minimum score 160), but will also qualify for listing in the Boone and Crockett Recognition Program for North America. He killed this large 10 point buck on December 9, 2000 in Red River Parish. Rob Maxwell of Doyline won the Archery Division with a 150 class buck from Bossier Parish that was also killed on December 9.

A. W. Farley of Mansfield, LA killed a large nine point in DeSoto Parish, also on December 9, that scored 153 1/8 points. While Mr. Farley's buck was not the highest scoring buck at the show, he was the oldest hunter at the show with the biggest buck. Mr. Farley is 87 years young. Mr. Farley was hunting from a box stand on a pipeline on that cold December morning. He had just started his heater to warm himself up when he looked up and saw the buck standing on the right-of-way. After making a 250-yard shot, he got on his three wheeler, picked up the buck, and loaded it in his truck. Mr. Farley retired from a pipeline company at the age of 65 and decided to start deer hunting. As a lifelong resident of Louisiana, Mr. Farley has watched first hand the changes which have occurred in the state's deer population and he has now etched himself a place in the records program.

Another highlight of the show occurred when a buck that was killed in 1938 in Concordia Parish by W.E. Beazley was brought in for scoring. Jim Bonsall of Sibley literally found the old mount in a closet when he was doing some work for the grandson of the man who killed it. Jim recognized that it was a tremendous buck and brought it to the show. The deer had nine typical points and nine non-typical or abnormal points. It was scored as a non-typical whitetail and netted 214 4/8 points. A score of 195 qualifies for listing in the all-time Boone and Crockett Record Book for North American big game.

There is no doubt that Louisiana is producing its share of quality deer and based upon the deer which have been officially scored to date, the 2000/2001 deer season was very productive. Persons who think they have harvested a deer that will qualify for recognition should contact their local wildlife office who can put them in touch with an official measurer.

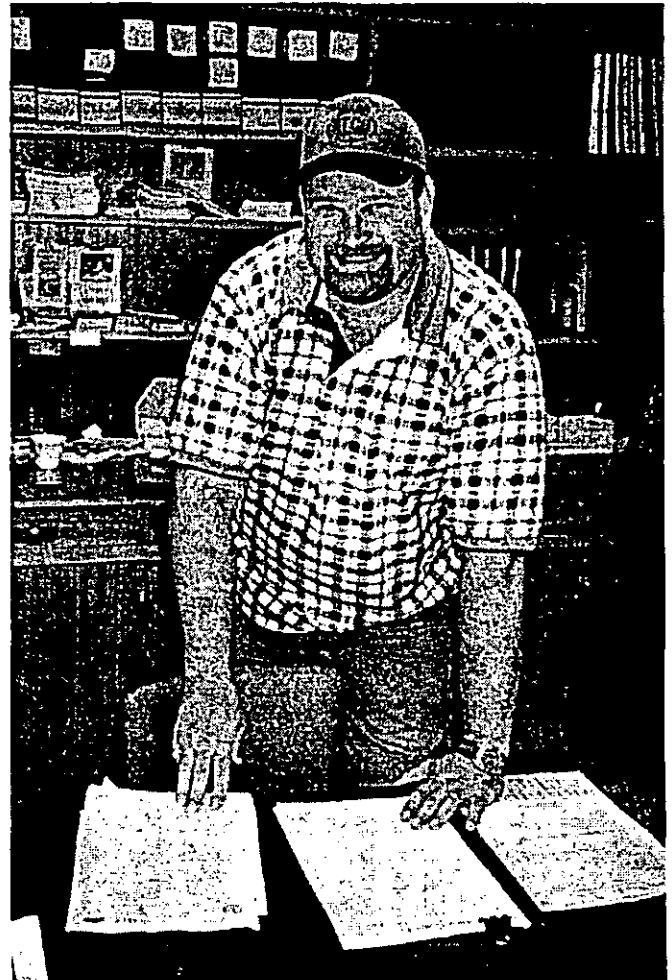
Thanks Tim !!!

By Larry Savage, DMAP Coordinator

LDWF would like to extend a special thanks to the Wildlife Division of Anderson-Tully Company and specifically to Assistant Wildlife Manager, Tim Evans. Tim has played a vital role in the installation and maintenance of DMAP computer records. In an effort above and beyond the call of duty, Tim has visited 5 of the 7 Regional LDWF offices to lend a hand with the conversion of history data (280,000 deer) to the new Deer Trax computer program.

For the past 15 years, ATCO Wildlife Managers have worked in tandem with LDWF biologists to provide landowners and leases along the Mississippi River in East Carroll Parish the best in deer management technical assistance. This collaborative effort led to the establishment of the East Carroll Association (ECA). Landowners, leases, biologists and enforcement agents are provided with a forum to exchange research data, educational information and recommendations at

the annual ECA meeting. ECA members (15 clubs and 33,327 acres) now have one of the top quality buck management programs in the state (69% 3.5 years and older). This was accomplished without mandatory state antler restrictions, illustrating that QDM can work on a voluntary basis.

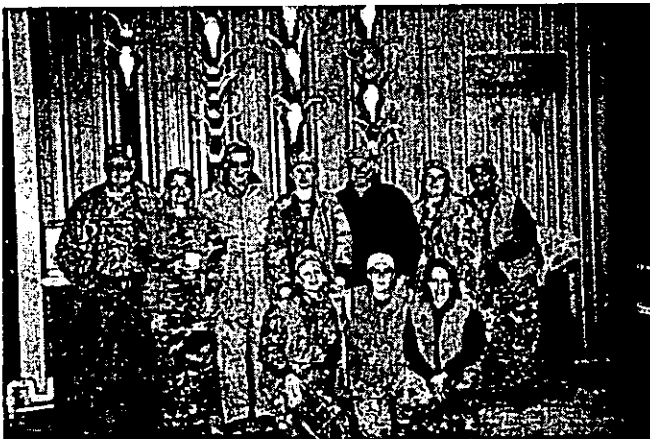


Tim Evans, Assistant Wildlife Manager, ATCO

3rd Beyond Becoming an Outdoors-Woman
Dana Permenter, LWDF Information & Education Section

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries held its 3rd Beyond Becoming an Outdoors Woman workshop in December 2000 on Lonewa Hunting Club, a 2,700 acre DMAP unit located in Ouachita Parish. Eight women were guided on a morning and evening doe-only hunt. Before the hunt, the women sighted in their rifles, were given hunter safety instructions, and then toured Lonewa. Although no deer were harvested, all of the women saw numerous quality bucks,

learned about different habitats, and experienced an educational and exciting weekend. Special thanks to the owners of Lonewa Hunting Club for giving these ladies the opportunity to hunt on such a well-managed and maintained facility. An extended thanks goes to the La. Wildlife Agents Association for their donation of hunter orange vest used by all the participants.



Lonewa owners, Freddie Nolan, Bishop Johnson, Larry Jones, and Bill Hoover host BOW.

DMAP Biologists Retire

Dave John went to work as a game biologist in 1972 in the New Orleans Region (District 8). He worked with all of the swamp and coastal parishes' DMAP cooperators when DMAP began in 1981. District 8 was combined with District 7 in 1989 and Dave continued to serve as the DMAP biologist for those parishes (about 75 clubs). In addition to his deer work, Dave assisted with development and management work on the old Bohemia WMA, Joyce WMA, and Manchac WMA. He was also an official measurer for the LA Big Game Recognition Program.

Lloyd Posey was employed as a Biologist in Regions 2 and 4 for several years during the mid-1990's to 2001 after transferring from the Education Section. He worked with about 100 DMAP clubs, primarily in North Mississippi Delta Parishes, collecting and analyzing harvest data and making management recommendations. His cooperative and personal approach was well-received by those clubs under his guidance and led to improvement in DMAP in the Regions. He also

supervised management activities on Boeuf, Sicily Island Hills, Bayou Macon, Big Colewa, and Floye McElroy WMAs, which experienced growth in size and management objectives.



Dave John



Lloyd Posey

Hunters For The Hungry

Hunters for the Hungry, an organization that began seven years ago, encourages hunters and fisherman to share their excess bounty of wild game and fish with the less fortunate in the Greater Baton Rouge community. Since the group's beginning, more than 57,000 pounds of meat has been collected for distribution to the needy through the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank.

Sportsmen can help in two ways. On September 23rd, the annual Clean Out Your Freezer Barbecue

will be held from 1:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. in the parking lot across from Alex Box Stadium on LSU's campus. Individuals are encouraged to donate leftover game and fish before the hunting seasons begin. Donors can enjoy barbecue and entertainment the day of the event. To donate freshly harvested game or fish throughout the year, call the Food Bank at 225/359-9940 for pickup. Hunters who donated an entire deer do not have to pay for processing. Processing information is available by calling the Food Bank.

The game and fish collected by *Hunters for the Hungry* is a valuable commodity for the Food Bank because frozen meats are not regularly donated. The Baton Rouge group would like to expand their mission statewide and is interested in talking with sportsmen in other areas who are interested in this worthy cause. For more information on how you can start a *Hunters for the Hungry* group in your community, call the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank at 225/359-9940.

DEER TALES

White Queen

By Larry Savage, DMAP Coordinator

Mike O'Brien was shocked when his remote camera captured two frames containing a rare white deer on his Spring Branch Hunting Club in Caddo Parish. The 1,400-acre Spring Branch hunting club practices quality buck management and has low to moderate hunting pressure. Except for these photos, no one saw the white doe during the 2000-2001 hunting season (see *What You Don't See*).

Despite her odd coloration, she seems to be queen of this bait pile with her aggressive ears-back posture and hind-leg boxing stance. From the photos it is difficult to determine the source of her white coloration but she is most likely a "piebald" deer.

Several genetic conditions can cause white coloration in deer:

- Albino deer have white hair, pink skin and eyes due to a genetic mutation that causes a total absence of dark color pigments. As in most animals, this condition is very rare in deer.
- A white color-phase appears to be the dominant color trait for 20% of the Seneca Army Depot deer herd in New York. These white deer have brown eyes and traces of brown hair throughout their coat. The genetic mutation responsible for the white color phase is usually restricted to small geographical areas.
- Although uncommon, partially white "piebald" deer are the most common color abnormality reported by Louisiana hunters. The extent of white coloration on piebald deer varies from small spots on the legs to almost total body coverage (white queen). Nose, hooves and eyes have normal coloration. Along with white color, this genetic abnormality may cause short legs, a Roman nose, short jaws and curving spine. Many piebald fawns die shortly after birth and some of the ones that reach adulthood are sterile.



White Queen - Photos Courtesy of Mike O'Brien

At most hunting club meetings someone invariably wants to discuss the removal of "genetically inferior bucks". Proposals are discussed at great lengths on how to identify and remove "cull bucks". Deer identified as "genetically inferior" by some arbitrary club rule may, in fact, be genetically superior based on its resistance to some

disease or parasite. When it comes to genetics, Mother Nature makes very few mistakes and produces very few "culls". As a group, however, white deer do appear to be truly genetically inferior.

Regardless of the exact cause, white deer are rare for the simple reason they are not well adapted for life. As prey animals, white deer are at a distinct disadvantage and historically, were quickly removed from the gene pool by predators (including man). Nonetheless, six states (not Louisiana) have regulations protecting albino deer. These regulations are based on human emotions and aesthetics rather than sound biology.



If you encounter a rare white deer on your hunting lease, what should you do? As with any deer you harvest, the choice is yours. As for Mother Nature, she would drop the hammer. In the absence of Florida panthers and red wolves, you are the most significant large predator of Louisiana deer.

"Bucket Beater Buck" (or Flambeau Buck)

By Jack Burke, Port Hickey DMAP Unit, EBR Parish

I often hear unusual fishing stories from my buddies, but unusual deer stories are hard to come

by. However, I encountered one that was so weird, my childhood tales of ghost stories was brought to mind. On the first Tuesday of the 2000 Black Powder season, I was hunting in a deep area between two lakes near the Mississippi River. As I was walking to my stand, I heard a noise that sounded like something from a horror movie. It sounded as if someone was hitting a bucket with a large stick, but I continued climbing into my stand.

Soon the noise stopped, but within minutes it began again some 70 yards away from me in a thicket and it continued for another ten minutes. I did not get down from my stand because whoever was doing this had to come by me or my friend, Jason, who was hunting at the opposite end of the lake. However, the terrible noise continued off and on all afternoon until dusk. When returning to the truck, I asked Jason what all the noise was about and why was someone beating a bucket. Needless to say, for the next four days, everyone thought that I was a bit weird as no one else had heard the noise.

Saturday morning was the opening of gun season and we headed back to the swamp, but I decided to hunt a different area this time. I got to my stand about 45 minutes before daylight, climbed up and settled down. Much to my surprise, the "bucket beater" started again. It seemed strange that someone would be making such a noise in the swamp before daylight. The noise seemed to be about a quarter mile away but getting closer at a rapid pace. It was quite dark and impossible to see anything. About ten minutes later, I heard my buddy, Jimmy Waddell, shoot in the direction of the "bucket beater". Shortly afterward, Jimmy's four-wheeler approached. He had a six-point buck in back of him and a broad grin on his face. There was my "bucket beater" with a large stick, nylon rope, washers and nuts and a duck decoy fastened securely around his antlers. The loud mystery noise was solved. Our only remaining task was to assure the lady living nearby that no one was trying to break into her garage, only a poor deer trying hard to free himself of his unwanted *flambeau*.



Bucket Beater / Flambeau Buck

NON-DEER WILDLIFE

Buzzard Boxes

By: Larry Savage, LDWF

Recently, a Union Parish deer hunter eagerly provided DMAP biologist, Jimmy Anthony, with the details of his "endangered species" discovery. According to his story, a "large eagle" was nesting in his box-stand. Now it is true that the number of Bald Eagles nesting in Northeast Louisiana has recently increased (five nests). But a box-stand in the middle of a pine thicket is not a likely location for our national symbol to setup house keeping. These large birds were either Turkey Vultures or Black Vultures. My Grandfather referred to Turkey Vultures simply as "Buzzards" and Black Vultures as "Carrion Crows" (namesake of

Carencro, LA).

There is a noticeable difference in appearance and behavior between the two species. Turkey vulture heads are red with a heavy white beak. Blacks have black heads with slender white beaks. Turkey vultures glide with a rocking motion as their long wings form a V-shape. Blacks hold their short wings flat and alternate short glides with rapid wing beats.

Black Vultures are smaller and usually travel and feed in family groups (3-5). They often depend on their larger cousin, the Turkey vulture to locate and open (with its heavier beak) tough skinned carcasses. Using aggressiveness and overwhelming numbers, Black Vultures frequently replace the solitary Turkey Vulture at a feeding site.

I was always fascinated by the ability of Turkey Vultures to locate small ribbon snakes killed by equipment in the Union Parish hayfields I worked as a youngster. As it turns out, they not only use the rising warm air thermals to carry them aloft each day, but also to bring the scent of rotting flesh up to be detected by their phenomenal sense of smell. The olfactory region of the Turkey Vultures brain is three times larger than that of the Black Vultures. Engineers have even used turkey buzzard gatherings to locate pipeline leaks by putting strong smelling gases through the pipes.

All vultures were once thought to be closely related to raptors (hawks and owls). However, recent DNA examination has revealed that New World vultures are more closely related to storks (Louisiana's Wood Stork or "Gourdhead").

Box-stands are a logical (from the buzzard's viewpoint) and increasingly common substitute for their favorite natural nesting site - the base of large hollow trees or stumps. Certainly, box stand construction is at an all-time high while the number of large hollow trees is declining due to intensive timber management. With open windows, a box stand becomes a large artificial cavity (like a large woodduck nest box). It provides growing vulture families with excellent protection from predators that are attracted to the

strong smell of carrion. Including 30 days of nest incubation and 10 weeks to flight, a vulture family may call your box home for most of the summer.



*Only a Mothers love! Photo by Savage
Baby Blacks cozy in a Union Parish box-stand*

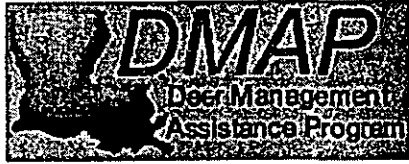
Don't be surprised if you find a few buzzard treasures left behind. On a habitat survey in Pointe Coupee, I stumbled into what appeared to be the site of a strange voodoo ritual. Numerous bones, bits of armadillo shell and small animal skulls were neatly displayed on the ground in front of a large hollow sycamore stump. The stump contained two Black Vulture eggs. Other researchers have reported nests decorated with bright bits of trash, bottle caps, and broken glass.

Vultures are an important piece of Mother Nature's jigsaw puzzle. These reviled creatures actually provide a beneficial service by scavenging pathogen-contaminated carcasses (rabies etc.). They have a natural immunity to toxins (even botulism the most potent natural toxin). Specialized digestive enzymes in their cast-iron stomachs can neutralize bacteria and viruses. At first glance, their habit of "white washing" everything with feces (including their legs and nest site) appears to be incredibly filthy and seems to defy logic. However, germ-fighting enzymes from the stomach pass into their droppings, creating a unique antiseptic coating that helps protect them from their infected meals.

So, consider yourself lucky when you find the inside of your favorite box-stand "white washed" come deer season. It has been cleaned by nature's

strongest disinfectant and you probably will not need any store-bought cover scents for the whole season. You have helped propagate one of Mother Natures most amazing creatures. And, don't forget that as migratory birds, vultures are protected by Federal regulations.

Anyone with interesting deer tales or photos are encourage to contact Larry Savage (see back page for contact information).



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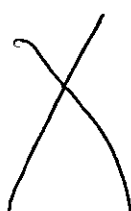
The DMAP Newsletter is printed twice a year to assist DMAP Cooperators with the intensive management of deer and habitat resources and to enhance the recreational enjoyment derived from these resources. It also updates cooperators with information on the administration of the program. DMAP contact people

that receive the newsletter directly are encouraged to pass it to as many of their members as possible. Please forward any questions or comments about DMAP or the DMAP Newsletter to:

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Compiled and edited by:
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 2002						
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

PERIOD	NO. CASES ASSESSED	AMOUNT ASSESSED	CREDIT FOR SALE GOODS	NO. CASES PAID	AMOUNT PAID	DISCOUNTS TAKEN	PERCENT DOLLARS PAID	PERCENT CASES PAID
FISCAL YEAR 1993-94								
July, 1993	25	\$21,039.00	(\$9,778.00)	29	\$4,855.00	\$2,545.00		
Aug., 1993	53	\$44,922.00	(\$1,137.00)	41	\$7,950.00	\$3,603.00		
Sept., 1993	42	\$137,635.00	(\$17,938.00)	35	\$6,783.00	\$3,048.00		
Oct., 1993	49	\$21,471.00	(\$11,282.00)	40	\$3,285.00	\$1,519.00		
Nov., 1993	57	\$31,207.00	(\$13,260.00)	32	\$3,053.00	\$2,845.00		
Dec., 1993	53	\$13,777.00		27	\$6,507.00	\$6,713.00		
Jan., 1994	38	\$18,918.00		32	\$4,423.00	\$2,831.00		
Feb., 1994	68	\$38,131.00	(\$8,238.00)	46	\$9,124.00	\$5,993.00		
Mar., 1994	38	\$22,739.00	(\$2,482.00)	51	\$10,854.00	\$6,796.00		
April, 1994	14	\$44,732.00	(\$1,404.00)	27	\$7,307.00	\$4,632.00		
May, 1994	10	\$4,504.00	(\$165.00)	7	\$5,447.00	\$3,808.00		
June, 1994	29	\$26,167.00	(\$2,986.00)	12	\$1,886.00	\$1,214.00		
Total FY 1994	476	\$425,242.00	(\$68,670.00)	379	\$71,474.00	\$45,547.00	27.5%	79.6%
FISCAL YEAR 1994-95								
July, 1994	17	\$2,127.00	(\$335.00)	23	\$2,101.00	\$1,437.00		
Aug., 1994	41	\$96,403.00	(\$3,035.00)	20	\$1,010.00	\$605.00		
Sept., 1994	34	\$14,614.00	(\$14,002.00)	26	\$2,596.00	\$2,342.00		
Oct., 1994	94	\$17,426.00	(\$8,677.00)	38	\$2,922.00	\$3,179.00		
Nov., 1994	43	\$103,592.00		45	\$3,992.00	\$2,803.00		
Dec., 1994	68	\$31,400.00		35	\$4,315.00	\$2,329.00		
Jan., 1995	55	\$27,601.00		52	\$7,493.00	\$4,921.00		
Feb., 1995	70	\$61,119.00		41	\$6,472.00	\$3,973.00		
Mar., 1995	31	\$25,072.00		44	\$8,315.00	\$4,737.00		
Apr., 1995	13	\$15,353.00		16	\$3,565.00	\$1,538.00		
May., 1995	23	\$11,632.00		16	\$4,315.00	\$654.00		
June 1995	45	\$31,008.00		18	\$2,630.00	\$1,025.00		
Total FY 1995	534	\$437,347.00	(\$26,049.00)	374	\$49,726.00	\$29,543.00	18.1%	70.0%
FICAL YEAR 1995-96								
July, 1995	0	\$0.00						
Aug., 1995	46	\$17,425.00		27	\$9,028.00	\$1,729.00		
Sept., 1995	1	\$125.00		21	\$3,093.00	\$2,049.00		
Oct., 1995	122	\$206,244.00		29	\$2,720.00	\$1,161.00		
Nov., 1995	55	\$23,124.00		62	\$10,151.00	\$6,383.00		
Dec., 1995	50	\$18,607.26		32	\$4,780.66	\$2,802.76		
Jan., 1996	49	\$13,814.88	(\$15,296.45)	36	\$5,296.51	\$3,472.89		
Feb., 1996	50	\$14,716.97		38	\$5,777.53	\$3,416.91		
Mar., 1996	33	\$24,936.91		36	\$6,035.12	\$3,421.75		
Apr., 1996	30	\$11,006.66		36	\$7,173.12	\$2,711.54		
May., 1996	23	\$7,989.34		24	\$3,941.69	\$2,020.29		
June 1996	50	\$22,151.31		16	\$2,790.02	\$1,182.23		
Total FY 1996	509	\$360,141.33	(\$15,296.45)	357	\$60,786.65	\$30,350.37	25.3%	70.1%
FISCAL YEAR 1996-97								
July, 1996	40	\$71,894.13		32	\$5,249.93	\$2,947.96		
Aug., 1996	32	\$5,362.64		32	\$6,254.59	\$3,783.69		
Sept., 1996	41	\$7,210.00		29	\$2,259.96	\$1,326.58		
Oct., 1996	29	\$11,092.53		25	\$3,697.89	\$2,261.98		
Nov., 1996	20	\$10,009.10		22	\$1,624.63	\$698.02		
Dec., 1996	13	\$238,466.04		22	\$5,877.18	\$2,121.53		
Jan., 1997	27	\$11,755.22		17	\$4,393.30	\$2,377.09		
Feb., 1997	47	\$18,520.87		42	\$8,579.84	\$5,552.63		
Mar., 1997	26	\$13,434.02		27	\$4,999.59	\$2,757.67		
Apr., 1997	10	\$2,908.87		15	\$2,322.88	\$1,298.66		
May., 1997	20	\$11,682.70		15	\$5,198.91	\$1,399.21		
June 1997	5	\$8,036.58		10	\$2,335.24	\$765.34		
Total FY 1997	310	\$410,372.70	\$0.00	288	\$52,793.94	\$27,290.36	19.5%	92.9%
FICAL YEAR 1997 - 98								
July, 1997	10	\$2,811.71		8	\$1,584.67	\$823.11		
Aug., 1997	14	\$8,741.30		8	\$1,496.49	\$779.14		
Sept., 1997	29	\$19,926.37		12	\$2,051.78	\$1,278.04		
Oct., 1997	12	\$4,716.81		23	\$3,184.83	\$2,063.89		
Nov., 1997	23	\$54,965.34		10	\$2,424.86	\$1,218.28		
Dec., 1997	25	\$36,881.09		15	\$4,376.97	\$2,775.66		
Jan., 1998	42	\$30,025.81		17	\$5,300.40	\$3,533.66		
Feb., 1998	37	\$31,164.95		29	\$22,961.69	\$8,501.18		
Mar., 1998	9	\$13,273.45		32	\$9,406.56	\$4,371.53		

Apr., 1998	10	\$5,628.21		10	\$2,602.62	\$1,279.77		
May., 1998	0	\$225.00		8	\$2,885.02	\$950.46		
June 1998	5	\$2,414.03		6	\$1,041.54	\$98.00		
Total FY 1998	216	\$210,774.07	\$0.00	178	\$59,317.43	\$27,672.72	41.3%	82.4%
FICAL YEAR 1998 - 99								
July, 1998	9	\$1,390.43		8	\$1,964.20	\$716.75		
Aug., 1998	10	\$2,240.70		10	\$1,048.28	\$372.47		
Sept., 1998	8	\$2,768.96		11	\$2,000.36	\$1,148.23		
Oct., 1998	22	\$28,704.85		14	\$1,860.17	\$807.48		
Nov., 1998	19	\$9,137.79		11	\$1,765.97	\$1,092.43		
Dec., 1998	23	\$11,959.10		27	\$4,441.02	\$2,040.71		
Jan., 1999	41	\$21,179.55		18	\$6,621.63	\$3,838.22		
Feb., 1999	45	\$26,236.24		41	\$12,119.09	\$6,923.61		
Mar., 1999	15	\$7,549.57		33	\$8,281.77	\$4,138.44		
Apr., 1999	9	\$8,013.54		14	\$3,035.82	\$1,388.41		
May., 1999	5	\$5,161.23		5	\$905.50	\$405.00		
June 1999	7	\$3,719.01		13	\$3,011.06	\$533.83		
Total FY 1999	213	\$128,060.97	\$0.00	205	\$47,054.87	\$23,405.58	55.0%	96.2%
FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000								
July, 1999	5	\$1,556.38		9	\$2,287.53	\$1,198.81		
Aug., 1999	10	\$2,510.83		15	\$2,455.38	\$513.73		
Sept., 1999	6	\$2,032.19	\$5,324.80	28	\$3,563.06	\$475.93		
Oct., 1999	11	\$4,452.31	\$567.75	25	\$2,775.48	\$557.41		
Nov., 1999	14	\$8,634.64		26	\$3,250.96	\$1,322.96		
Dec., 1999	24	\$15,891.96		19	\$3,862.76	\$2,126.27		
Jan., 2000	49	\$27,872.14		28	\$7,952.94	\$3,814.02		
Feb., 2000	21	\$11,039.59		30	\$10,159.24	\$6,216.42		
Mar., 2000	19	\$9,873.21		31	\$6,709.07	\$3,555.40		
Apr., 2000	12	\$7,897.70		17	\$2,932.41	\$1,512.54		
May, 2000	7	\$5,039.46	\$293.60	20	\$7,062.23	\$3,164.00		
June, 2000	16	\$14,566.88		18	\$5,766.59	\$1,852.12		
Total FY 2000	194	\$111,367.29	\$6,186.15	266	\$58,777.65	\$26,309.61	76%	137%
FISCAL YEAR 2000-01								
July, 2000	2	\$865.01		14	\$1,948.03	\$154.01		
Aug., 2000	20	\$15,837.60		17	\$3,302.27	\$1,063.92		
Sept., 2000	12	\$3,562.26		23	\$8,718.21	\$1,351.41		
Oct., 2000	18	\$122,696.24		29	\$7,457.98	\$490.16		
Nov. 2000	13	\$15,851.30		22	\$4,038.50	\$309.30		
Dec., 2000	40	\$30,234.92		24	\$7,189.98	\$462.13		
Jan., 2001	28	\$15,923.38		25	\$7,611.66	\$833.60		
Feb., 2001	35	\$20,181.39		30	\$18,568.12	\$1,917.82		
Mar., 2001	8	\$5,956.83		37	\$15,724.02	\$753.86		
Apr., 2001	20	\$24,145.82		22	\$4,856.39	\$225.93		
May 2001	4	\$1,677.36		20	\$3,700.77	\$313.58		
June 2001	3	\$932.20		31	\$8,433.81	\$346.90		
Total FY 2001	203	\$257,864.31	\$0.00	294	\$91,549.74	\$8,222.62	39%	145%
FISCAL YEAR 2001-02								
July, 2001	4	\$4,290.29		25	\$6,328.36	\$293.54		
Aug., 2001	6	\$9,452.69		18	\$2,984.52			
Sept., 2001	0	\$175.00		25	\$4,157.32	\$66.29		
Oct., 2001	15	\$6,439.06		18	\$3,174.66	\$67.32		
Nov., 2001	15	\$5,913.63		24	\$3,932.41	\$194.66		
Dec., 2001	36	\$21,868.88		20	\$5,384.19	\$502.17		
Jan., 2002								
Feb., 2002								
Mar., 2002								
Apr., 2002								
May, 2002								
June, 2002								
Total FY 2002	76	\$48,139.55	\$0.00	130	\$25,961.46	\$1,123.98	56%	171%

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
CURRENT MONTH
12/01/2001 TO 12/31/2001

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	36	\$21,818.88
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	2	\$50.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00

RESTITUTION ASSESSED	36	\$21,868.88
PAYMENTS	15	\$5,120.79-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	2	\$125.00-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	3	\$138.40-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	0	\$0.00
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	2	\$50.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	12	\$502.17-
OVERPAYMENTS	2	\$34.24
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	0	\$0.00
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	0	\$0.00
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	0	\$0.00
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00

FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
07/01/2001 TO 12/31/2001

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	76	\$47,714.55
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	17	\$425.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	76	\$48,139.55
PAYMENTS	52	\$16,692.02-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	9	\$2,081.81-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	13	\$2,272.53-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	12	\$4,540.10-
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	26	\$675.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	23	\$1,123.98-
OVERPAYMENTS	8	\$158.01
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	3	\$310.71
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
WRITE-OFFS	1	\$554.12-
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	1	\$395.71-
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	0	\$0.00
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	2	\$1,049.08-
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00

FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
 CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
 INCEPTION TO DATE
 12/31/2001

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	4,274	\$3,008,175.77
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	275	\$7,300.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	331	\$269,865.45-
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	148	\$71,951.21
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	4,274	\$2,817,561.53
PAYMENTS	2,880	\$584,200.64-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	24	\$3,778.51-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	57	\$17,847.04-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	37	\$12,717.70-
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	149	\$3,900.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	2,019	\$252,966.55-
OVERPAYMENTS	149	\$3,354.58
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	56	\$11,585.90
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	14	\$31,747.30-
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	5	\$12,222.64
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	20	\$90,603.09
RETURNED CHECKS	1	\$61.75
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	3	\$55.00
CREDITS	13	\$10.22-
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	21	\$6,881.15
CREDITS	62	\$36,704.16-
WRITE-OFFS	977	\$1,026,803.42-
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	7	\$1,794.95-
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	24	\$12,388.00-
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	65	\$150,318.29-
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
		=====
** TOTAL OUTSTANDING	375	\$807,148.86

 FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	37	\$106,809.20 *
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AGING OF SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODITIES

VIOLATION DATE UNKNOWN	0	\$0.00
1 - 30 DAYS	2	\$8,025.70
31 - 60 DAYS	2	\$311.54
61 - 90 DAYS	6	\$2,671.55
91 - 120 DAYS	6	\$3,885.95
121 - 150 DAYS	12	\$14,148.05
151 - 180 DAYS	18	\$20,476.07
181 - 365 DAYS	61	\$68,156.56
OVER ONE YEAR	154	\$118,799.27
OVER TWO YEARS	139	\$80,926.32
OVER THREE YEARS	685	\$481,927.90
		=====
** TOTAL AGING	1,085	\$799,328.91

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES

COLLECTIONS WITH AGENCY:		
CAN NOT BE INVOICED	0	\$0.00
CURRENT	31	\$19,297.79
1 - 30 DAYS	10	\$4,262.12
31 - 90 DAYS	7	\$2,834.75
91 - 180 DAYS	8	\$10,456.09
181 - 365 DAYS	35	\$32,530.54
OVER ONE YEAR	208	\$212,738.87
COLLECTIONS WITH PRIVATE COLLECTIONS FIRM:		
1 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	74	\$450,263.16
AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST:		
1 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	2	\$74,765.54
		=====
** TOTAL AGING	375	\$807,148.86

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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
CURRENT MONTH
12/01/2001-12/31/2001

PAGE: 1
DATE: 01/03/2002

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	416	\$21,400.00
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	203	\$5,075.00
CREDITS	4	\$100.00-
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$26,375.00

=====

PAID IN FULL	199	\$11,362.50-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	3	\$155.50-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	0	\$0.00
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	0	\$0.00
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
OVERPAYMENTS	2	\$75.00
REFUNDS	4	\$185.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	1	\$50.00
CREDITS	1	\$100.00-
VOIDS	12	\$475.00-
NOT GUILTY	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	12	\$600.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	7	\$350.00-

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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
07/01/2001-12/31/2001PAGE: 2
DATE: 01/03/2002

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	3,386	\$172,610.00
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	1,895	\$47,375.00
CREDITS	21	\$676.00-
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$219,309.00

=====

PAID IN FULL	3,325	\$192,078.79-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	76	\$3,572.50-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	7	\$340.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	7	\$170.00-
WRITE-OFFS	5	\$195.00-
OVERPAYMENTS	33	\$1,568.79
REFUNDS	25	\$1,340.00
RETURNED CHECKS	4	\$125.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	4	\$40.00
CREDITS	1	\$0.85-
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	8	\$400.00
CREDITS	3	\$350.00-
VOIDS	189	\$5,982.50-
NOT GUILTY	96	\$3,750.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	47	\$2,350.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	16	\$800.00-

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
INCEPTION TO DATE
12/31/2001

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	93,448	\$4,750,737.07
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	22,924	\$573,402.80
CREDITS	21	\$8,001.00-
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$5,316,138.87

=====

PAID IN FULL	54,606	\$2,875,248.39-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	1,433	\$65,548.40-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	12	\$590.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	12	\$295.00-
WRITE-OFFS	5	\$195.00-
OVERPAYMENTS	1,077	\$29,360.21
REFUNDS	230	\$11,240.31
RETURNED CHECKS	69	\$3,650.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	69	\$1,125.00
CREDITS	170	\$157.63-
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	173	\$9,950.00
CREDITS	24	\$1,500.00-
VOIDS	5,245	\$223,340.23-
NOT GUILTY	1,091	\$54,475.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	129	\$6,550.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	16	\$800.00-
		=====
TOTAL OUTSTANDING		\$2,142,764.74

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES FROM CITATION DATE

COLLECTIONS WITH AGENCY:

CURRENT	176	\$9,150.00
1 - 30 DAYS	258	\$13,150.00
31 - 90 DAYS	450	\$23,475.00
91 - 180 DAYS	816	\$42,860.00
181 - 365 DAYS	1,236	\$84,300.50
OVER ONE YEAR	30,155	\$1,954,489.24

COLLECTIONS WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL:

1 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	204	\$15,340.00

AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST:

1 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	0	\$0.00

=====

** TOTAL AGING	33,295	\$2,142,764.74
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AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES FROM HEARING DATE

PREHEARING	851	\$43,850.00
0 - 90 DAYS	2,790	\$142,560.00
91 - 180 DAYS	376	\$28,053.00
181 - 270 DAYS	472	\$33,747.50
271 - 365 DAYS	368	\$27,405.00
OVER ONE YEAR	28,438	\$1,867,149.24

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** TOTAL AGING	33,295	\$2,142,764.74
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Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

NEWS RELEASE

James H. Jenkins Jr.
Secretary



CONTACT
225/765-2925

2001-324

12-26-01

AGENDA SET FOR JAN. 3 WILDLIFE & FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 3, 2002, in the Louisiana Room at the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Building at 2000 Quail Drive in Baton Rouge. The agenda follows:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of Dec. 6, 2001
3. Revised Strategic Plan Presentation
4. Notice of Intent - Harvest of Mullet
5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports (December)
6. Resolution - Adopt Wildlife Management Areas Natural Areas
7. Notice of Intent - Amend Hunting Preserve Regulations
8. Rule Ratification - Lake Concordia Black Bass Harvest Regulations
9. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Recreational Season
10. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Commercial Season
11. Declaration of Emergency - King Mackerel Commercial Season
12. Division Report - Deer Hunting Success
13. Set May 2002 Meeting Date
14. Public Comments

EDITORS: For more information, contact Marianne Burke at 225/765-2917
(burke_mm@wlf.state.la.us).

December 26, 2001

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: 

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, January 3, 2002, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of December 6, 2001
3. Revised Strategic Plan Presentation
4. Notice of Intent - Harvest of Mullet
5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/December
6. Resolution - Adopt Wildlife Management Areas Natural Areas
7. Notice of Intent - Amend Hunting Preserve Regulations
8. Rule Ratification - Lake Concordia Black Bass Harvest Regulations
9. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Recreational Season
10. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Commercial Season
11. Declaration of Emergency - King Mackerel Commercial Season
12. DIVISION REPORT - Deer Hunting Success
13. Set May 2002 Meeting Date
14. Public Comments

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800
December 26, 2001

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
SUBJECT: January Commission Meeting Agenda

The next regular Commission meeting will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, January 3, 2002, in the Louisiana Room at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

The following items will be discussed:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of December 6, 2001

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & FINANCE

3. Revised Strategic Plan Presentation
4. Notice of Intent - Harvest of Mullet

WINTON VIDRINE

5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/December

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

6. Resolution - Adopt Wildlife Management Areas Natural Areas
7. Notice of Intent - Amend Hunting Preserve Regulations

Page 2
Commission Meeting
December 26, 2001

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

8. Rule Ratification - Lake Concordia Black Bass Harvest Regulations

9. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Recreational Season

10. Declaration of Emergency - Red Snapper Commercial Season

11. Declaration of Emergency - King Mackerel Commercial Season

DIVISION REPORT

12. Deer Hunting Success

13. Set May 2002 Meeting Date

14. Public Comments

JHJ:sch

cc: Jim Patton
Phil Bowman
John Roussel
Craig Lamendola
Don Puckett
Dennis Kropog
Ewell Smith
Division Chiefs
Marianne Burke

C O V E R

S H E E T



FAX

To: Tom Gattle

Fax #: 318-559-1524

Subject: Agenda

Date: December 20, 2001

Pages: 3, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Please call me after you have reviewed the attached agenda. Thanks.

From the desk of...

Susan Hawkins

La. Dept. Of Wildlife & Fisheries
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

225-765-2806
Fax: 225-765-0948

, 2001

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
SUBJECT: January Commission Meeting Agenda

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Commission Meeting
, 2001

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Dennis Kropog
Ewell Smith
Division Chiefs
Marianne Burke

Hawkins, Susan

From: Foote, Karen
Sent: Friday, December 07, 2001 4:20 PM
To: Roussel, John E
Cc: Abbott, Janet; Porch, Pat; Pausina, Randy
Subject: January Commission items- Marine

If you concur, please forward to Susan. Thanks.

Declaration of Emergency- Red Snapper - Recreational Season- Randy Pausina

Declaration of Emergency- Red Snapper- Commercial Season- Randy Pausina

Declaration of Emergency- King Mackerel- Commercial Season- Randy Pausina

Hawkins, Susan

From: Roussel, John E
Sent: Friday, December 07, 2001 4:25 PM
To: Hawkins, Susan
Cc: Foote, Karen; Pausina, Randy; Porch, Pat
Subject: FW: January Commission items- Marine



January Commission
items- Mari...

OK

Hawkins, Susan

From: Burke, Marianne
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2001 9:30 AM
To: Hawkins, Susan
Cc: Courtney, Joel
Subject: Jan. commission meeting

Susan - Please remove the Public Information Quarterly Report from the agenda for the January commission meeting. I will be on leave for the holidays that week and hopefully out of town. We will either do our quarterly report at the Feb. meeting or wait and do a catch up for two quarters at the April meeting.

Thank you.

Marianne M. Burke
Public Information Director
225/765-2917

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800
December 3, 2001

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-Office of Wildlife,
Assistant Secretary-Office of Fisheries and Confidential
Assistant

FROM: James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - January 3, 2002

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Hawkins by Tuesday, December 18th any agenda items your office may have for the Thursday, January 3rd Commission Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive. This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on January 3rd. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate so on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda. Thank you for your cooperation!

JHJ/sch

cc: Commissioners
Don Puckett
Winton Vidrine
Tommy Prickett
Bennie Fontenot
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke ✓

*Public Information Quarterly
Report (Oct-Dec 2001)
Mike Foster*

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800
December 3, 2001

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
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Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

PRESENT REVISED
STRATEGIC PLAN
(POWERPOINT & COPIES)

NOI - Harvest of Mullet
Janis

State of Louisiana




James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800
December 3, 2001

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Winton Vidrine ✓
Tommy Prickett
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Wynnette Kees
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Marianne Burke

 Case Report

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
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December 3, 2001

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
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Bennie Fontenot ✓
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

NOV. 4, 2001

Dear Susan:
I have the following items
for the January 3rd Commission
Meeting:

"Rule Ratification; Lake Concordia
Black Bass Harvest Regulations."

Sincerely,

Bennie Fontenot
Adm. Inland Fisheries

State of Louisiana




James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800
December 3, 2001

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-Office of Wildlife,
Assistant Secretary-Office of Fisheries and Confidential
Assistant

FROM: James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary 

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - January 3, 2002

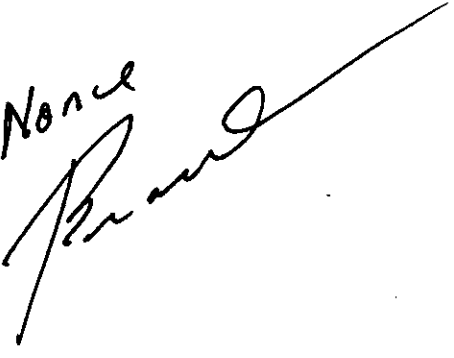
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Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie ✓
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

None



State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
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December 3, 2001

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Assistant

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Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

TRANSACTION REPORT

DEC-04-01 TUE 09:56 AM

P.01

DATE	START	RECEIVER	TX TIME	PAGES	TYPE	NOTE	M#	DP
DEC-04	09:55 AM	SEAFOOD MKTG BOARD	44"	1	SEND	OK	901	

TOTAL : 44S PAGES: 1

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
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December 3, 2001

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Assistant

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RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA'S NATURAL AREAS
3 January 2002

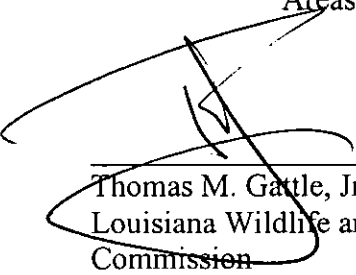
WHEREAS, since 1959, the Department has purchased, or received donations of over 440,000 acres of land dedicated as Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), and

WHEREAS, these lands were purchased as a means of conserving the dwindling bottomland hardwood forest and other special forest-type resource areas in the state along with their associated resident and migratory wildlife resources, and

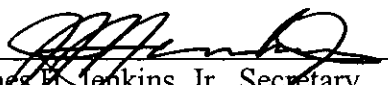
WHEREAS, an integral part of forest/wildlife management includes establishment of unique and natural areas within the system, designated as such to protect fragile systems that may be damaged by disturbance and to conserve special forest characteristics as monitors of management, and

WHEREAS, in October 1995, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission endorsed and adopted the LDWF General Forest Management Plan as the official plan for administration and management of the Department's WMA Forest Resources, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does endorse and incorporate into the WMA General Forest Management Plan the described management guidelines and areas herein attached as the official Natural Areas (NA) on the respective WMAs so listed.



Thomas M. Gattle, Jr., Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

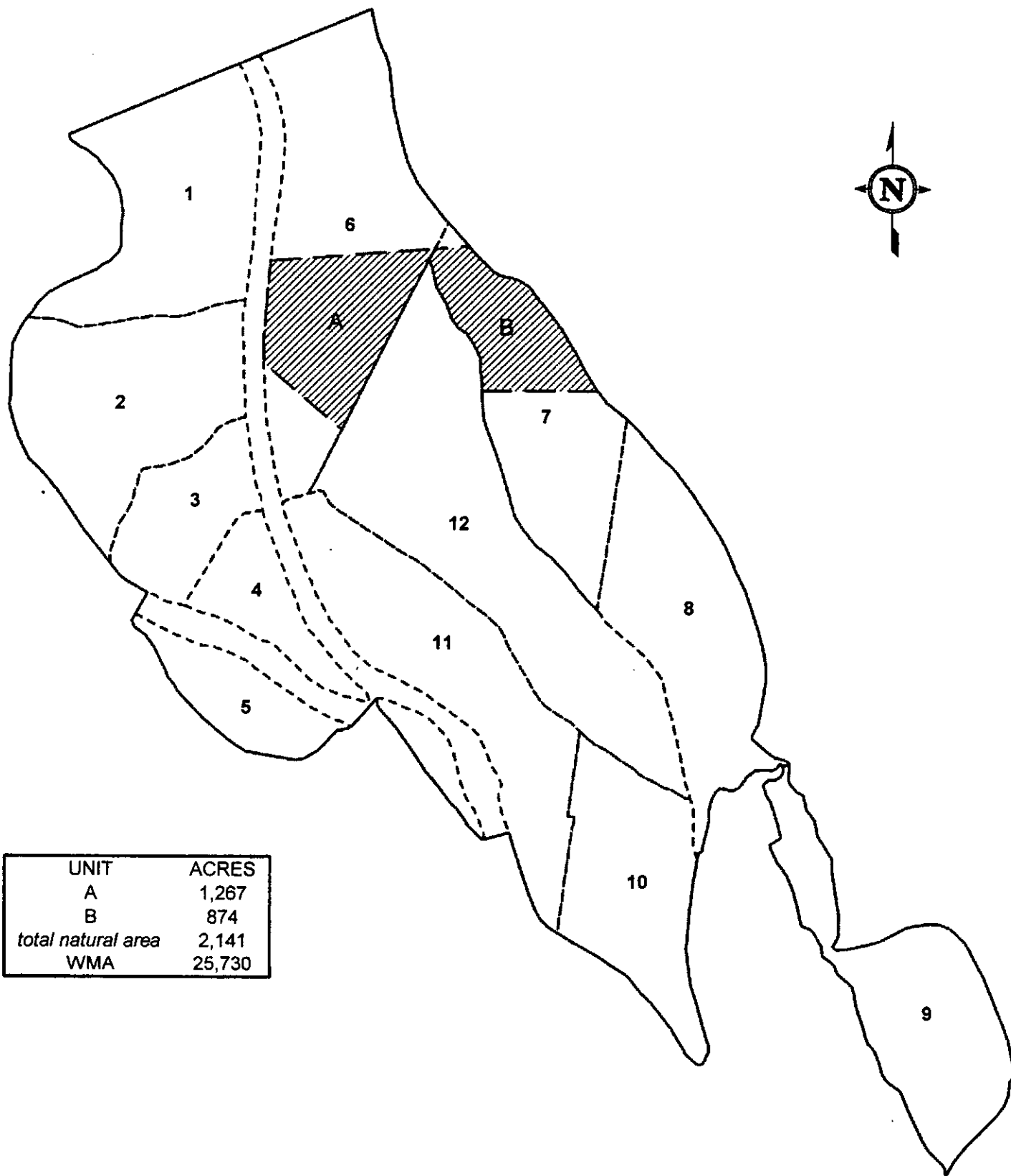


James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

WMA Natural Areas, LWF Commission Resolution - January 3, 2002

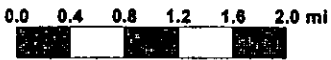
Attachment 1.

WMA Natural Area Maps

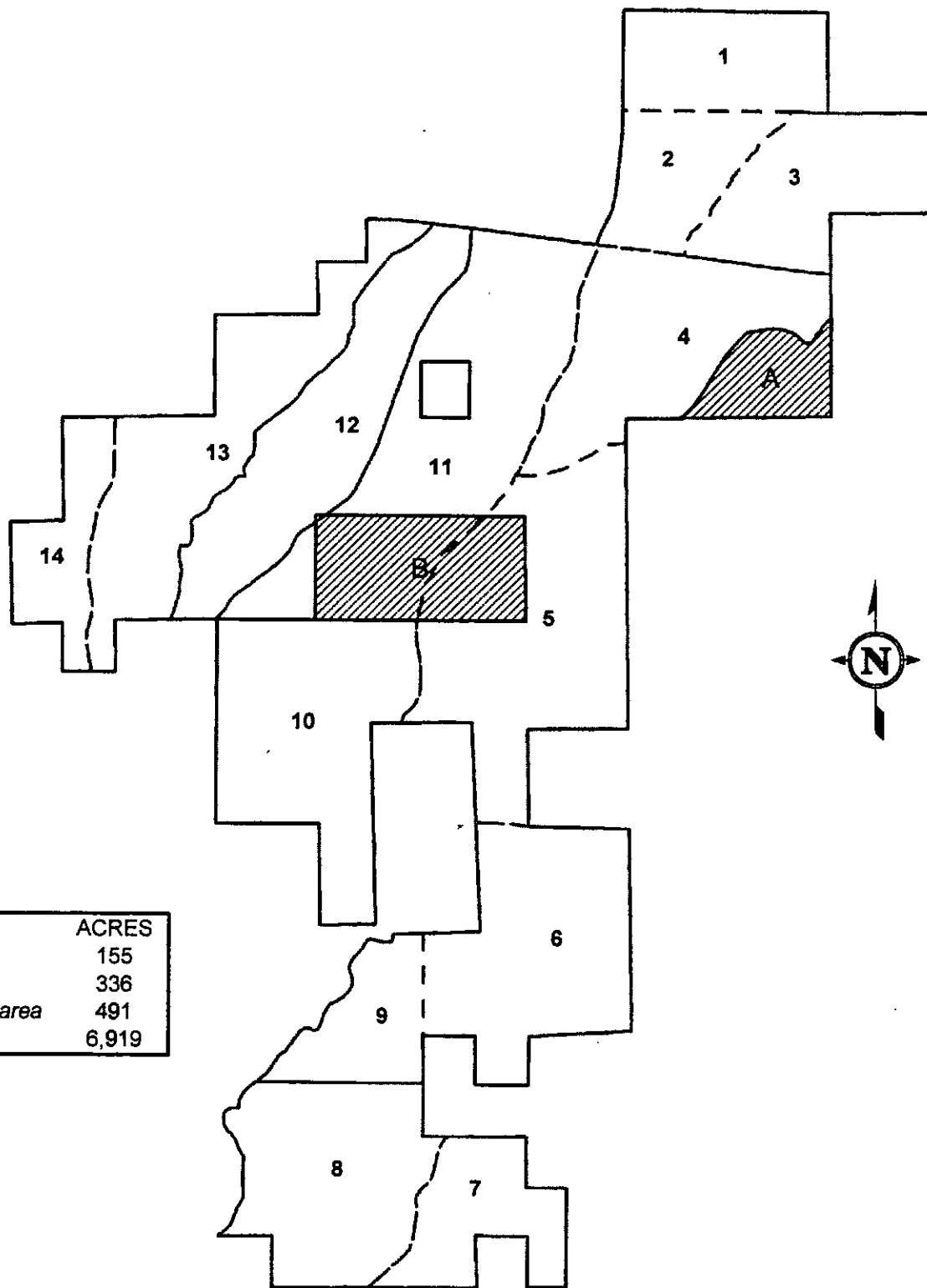


UNIT	ACRES
A	1,267
B	874
<i>total natural area</i>	2,141
WMA	25,730





- compartment
- natural area
- compartment number
- WMA boundary



Attakapas Island WMA
Natural Area

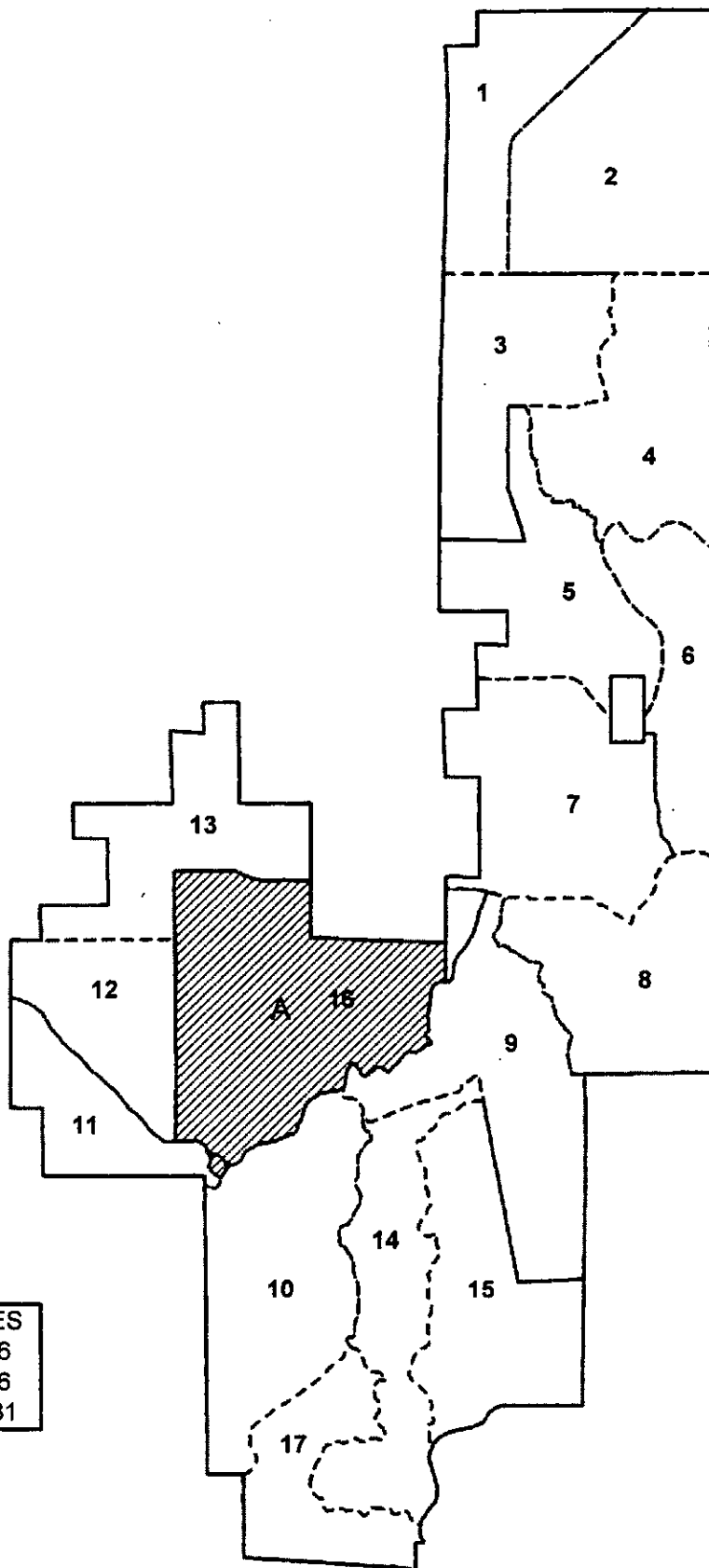


UNIT	ACRES
A	155
B	336
<i>total natural area</i>	<i>491</i>
WMA	6,919





-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Bayou Macon WMA Natural Area

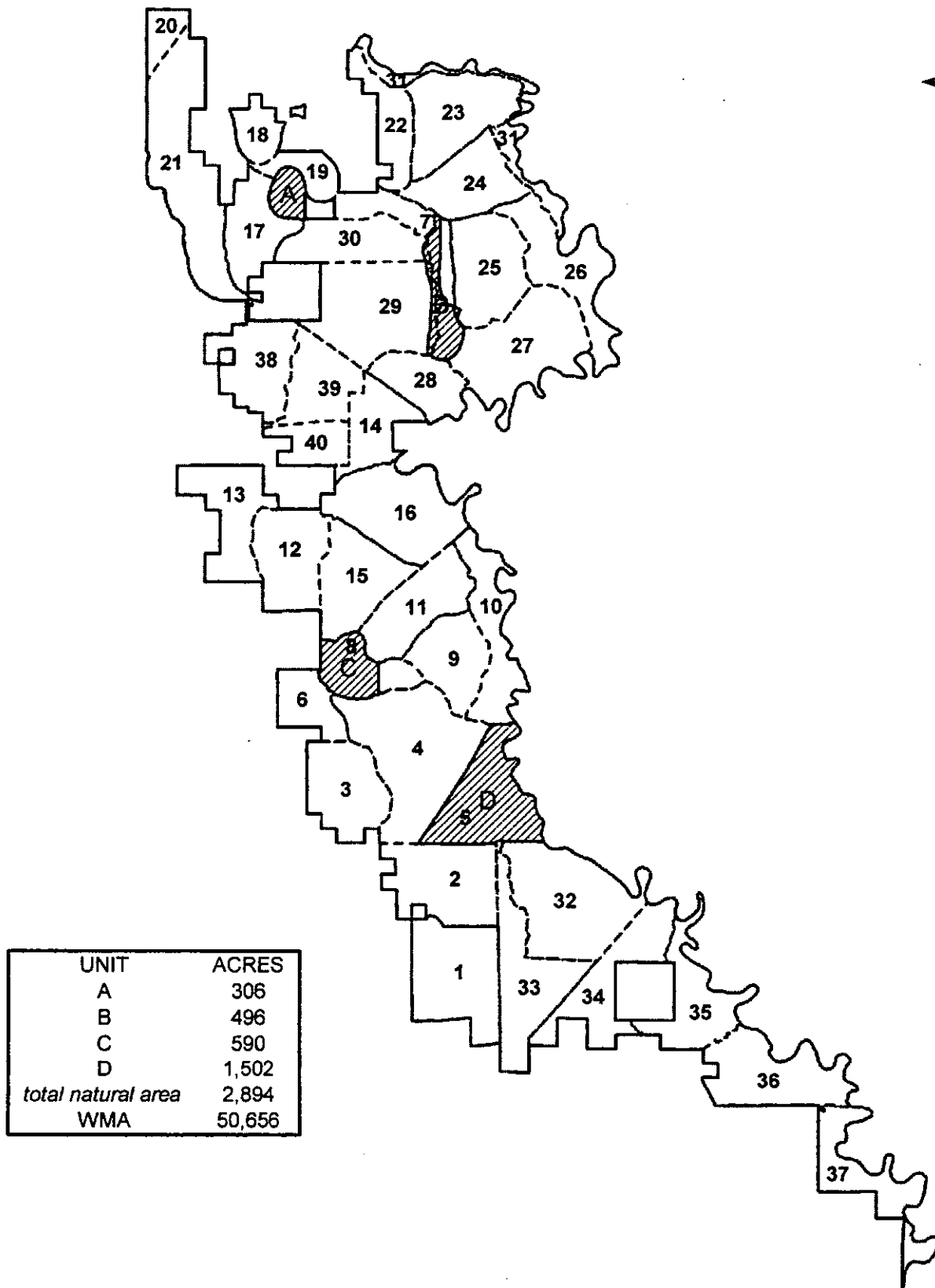


UNIT	ACRES
A	1,876
<i>total natural area</i>	1,876
WMA	19,231

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Big Lake WMA
Natural Area



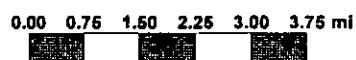
UNIT	ACRES
A	306
B	496
C	590
D	1,502
<i>total natural area</i>	<i>2,894</i>
WMA	50,656

 compartment

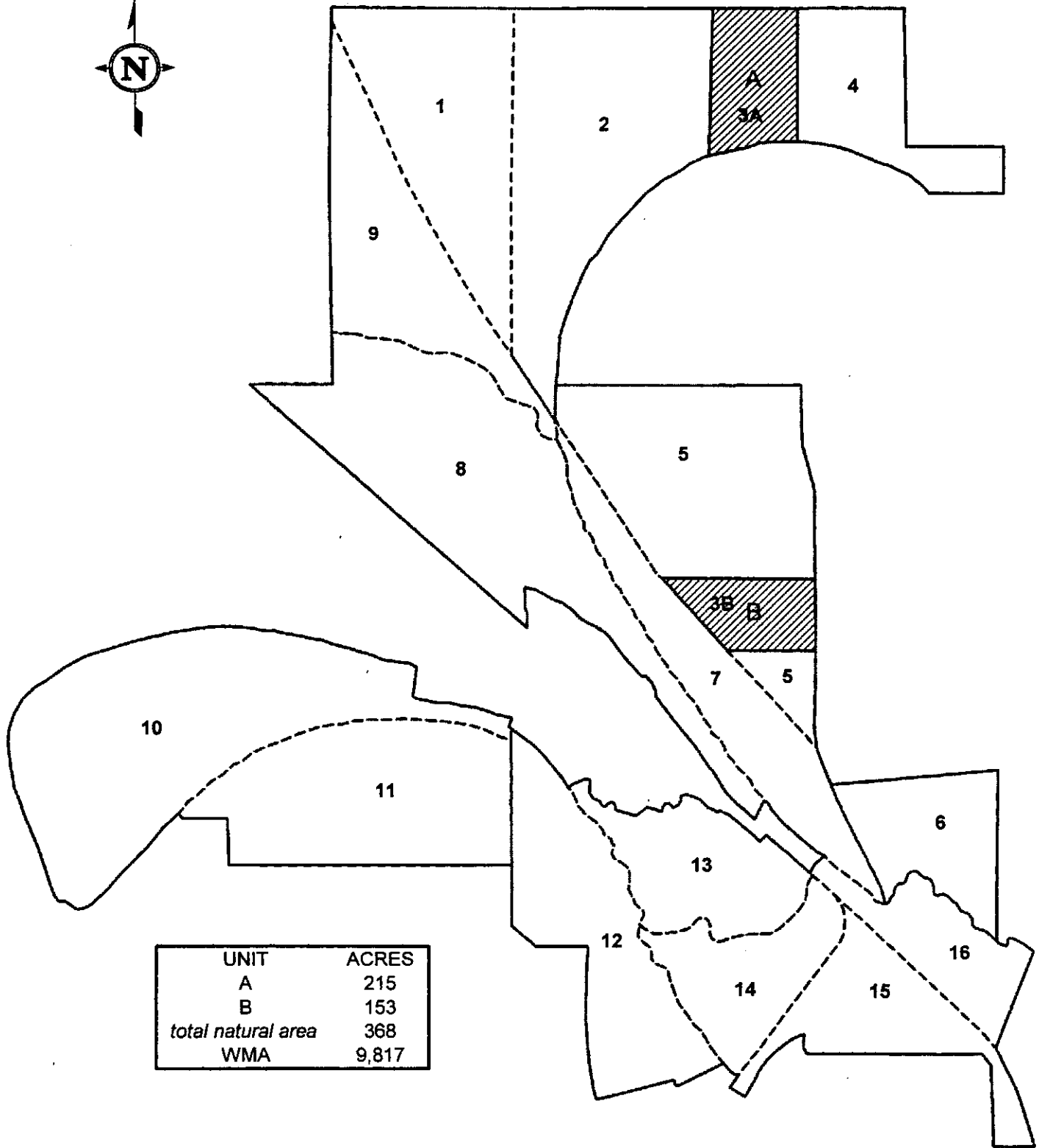
 natural area

 compartment number

 WMA boundary



Boeuf WMA
Natural Area

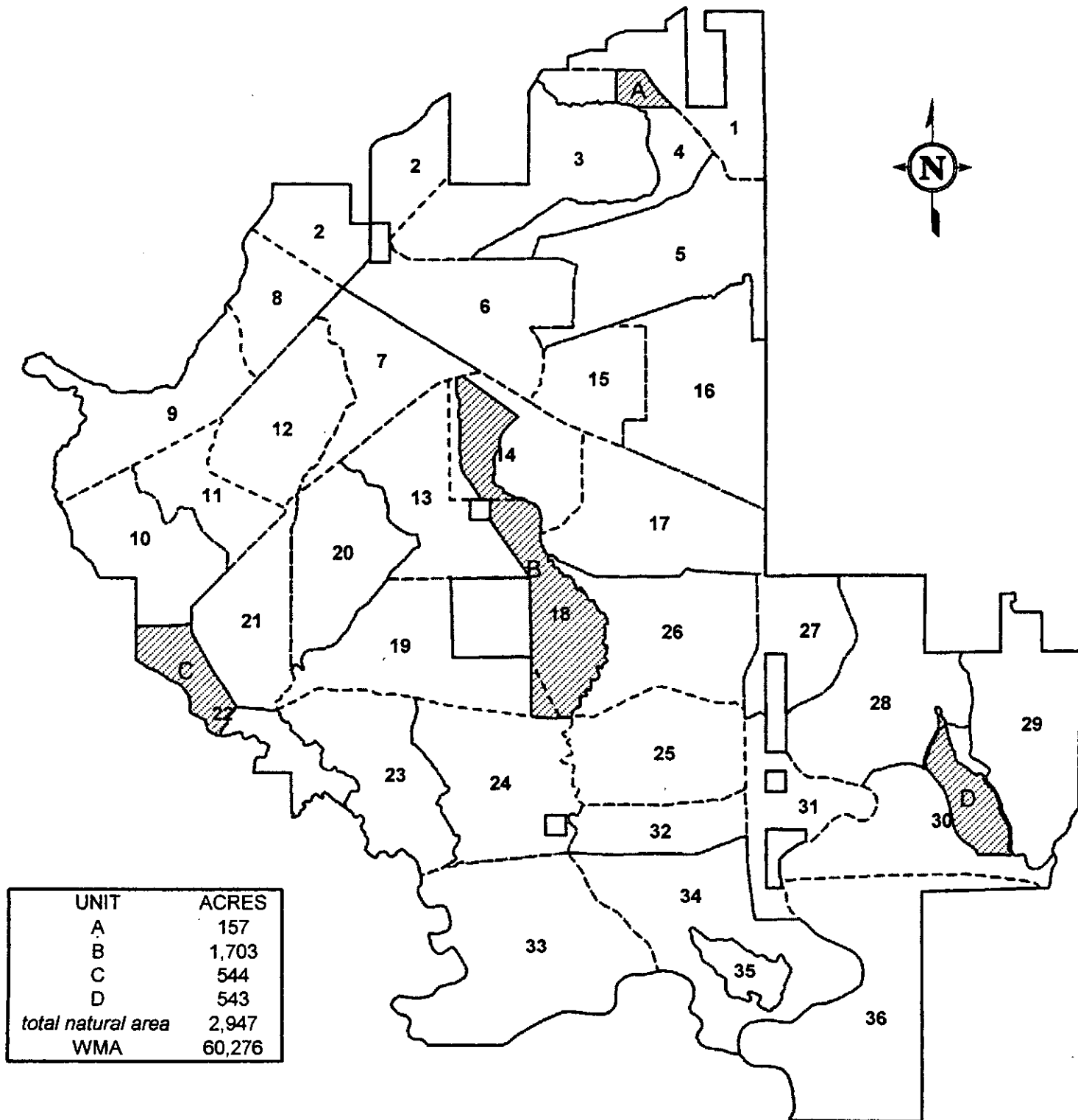






UNIT	ACRES
A	215
B	153
<i>total natural area</i>	368
WMA	9,817

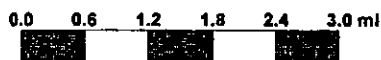
- compartment
- natural area
- compartment number
- WMA boundary

0.00 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00 1.25 mi

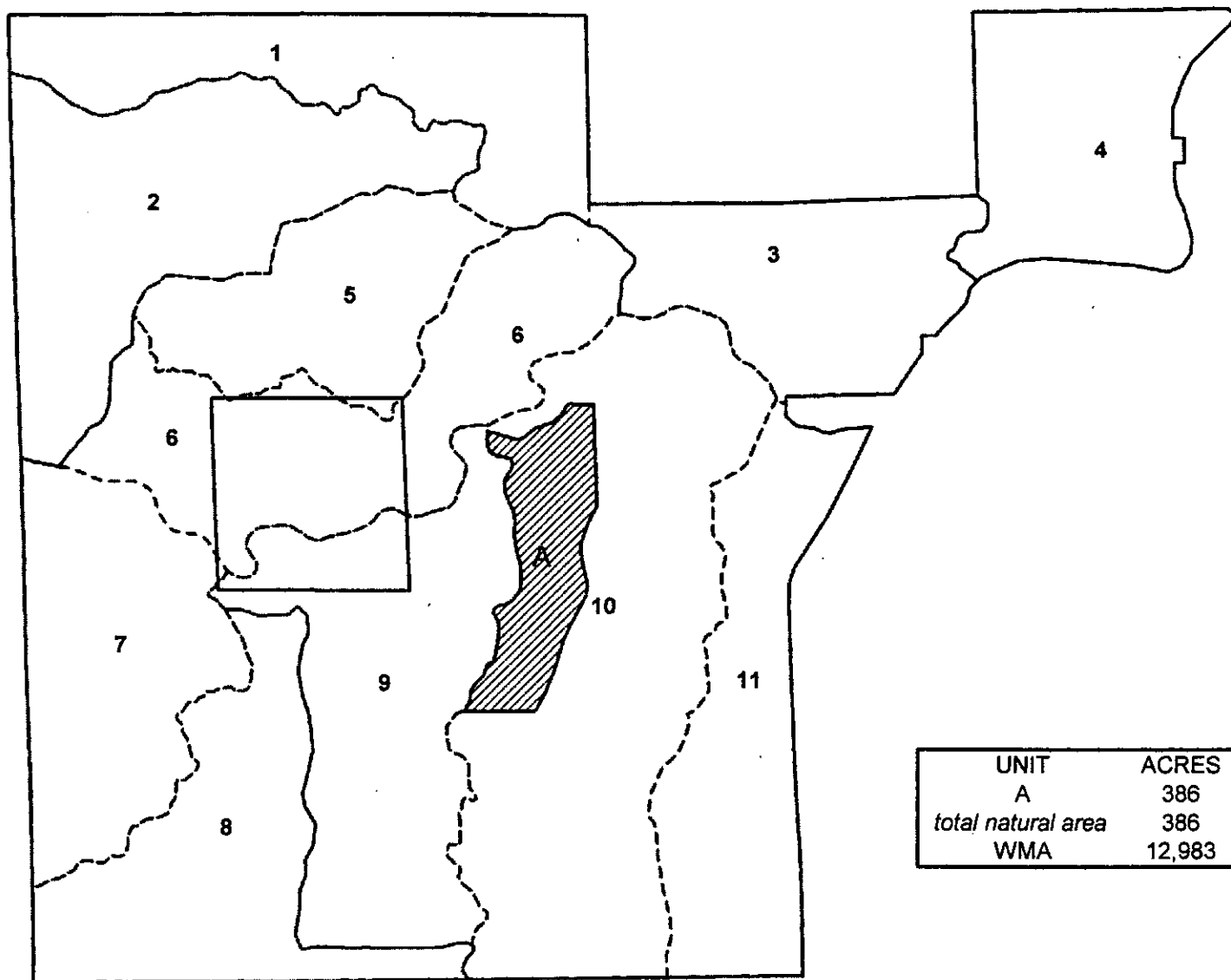
Buckhorn WMA Natural Area







-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary

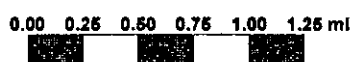


Dewey Wills WMA Natural Area



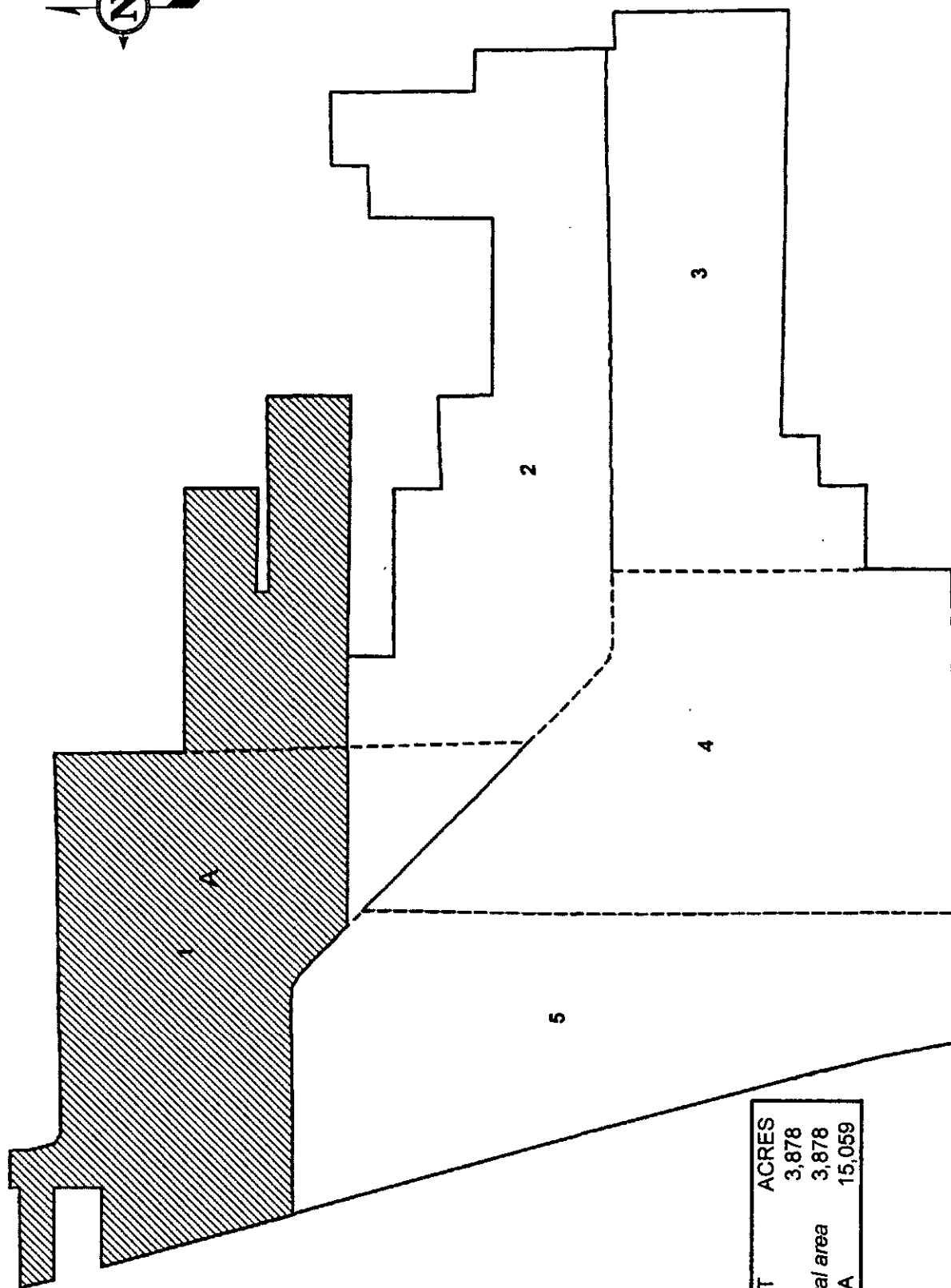
UNIT	ACRES
A	386
<i>total natural area</i>	386
WMA	12,983

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Grassy Lake WMA

Natural Area

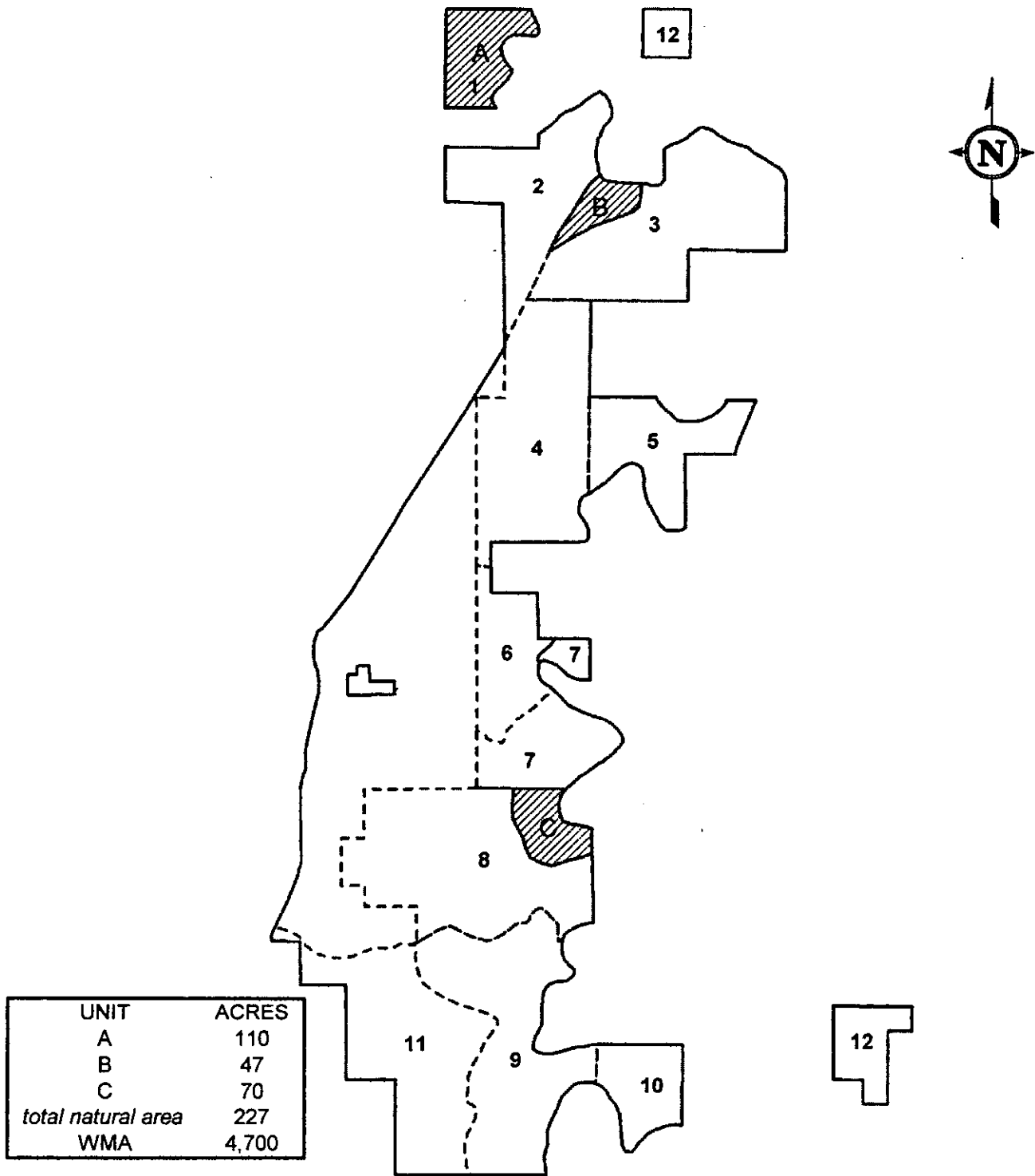


UNIT	ACRES
A	3,878
total natural area	3,878
WMA	15,059

- compartment
- natural area
- compartment number
- WMA boundary

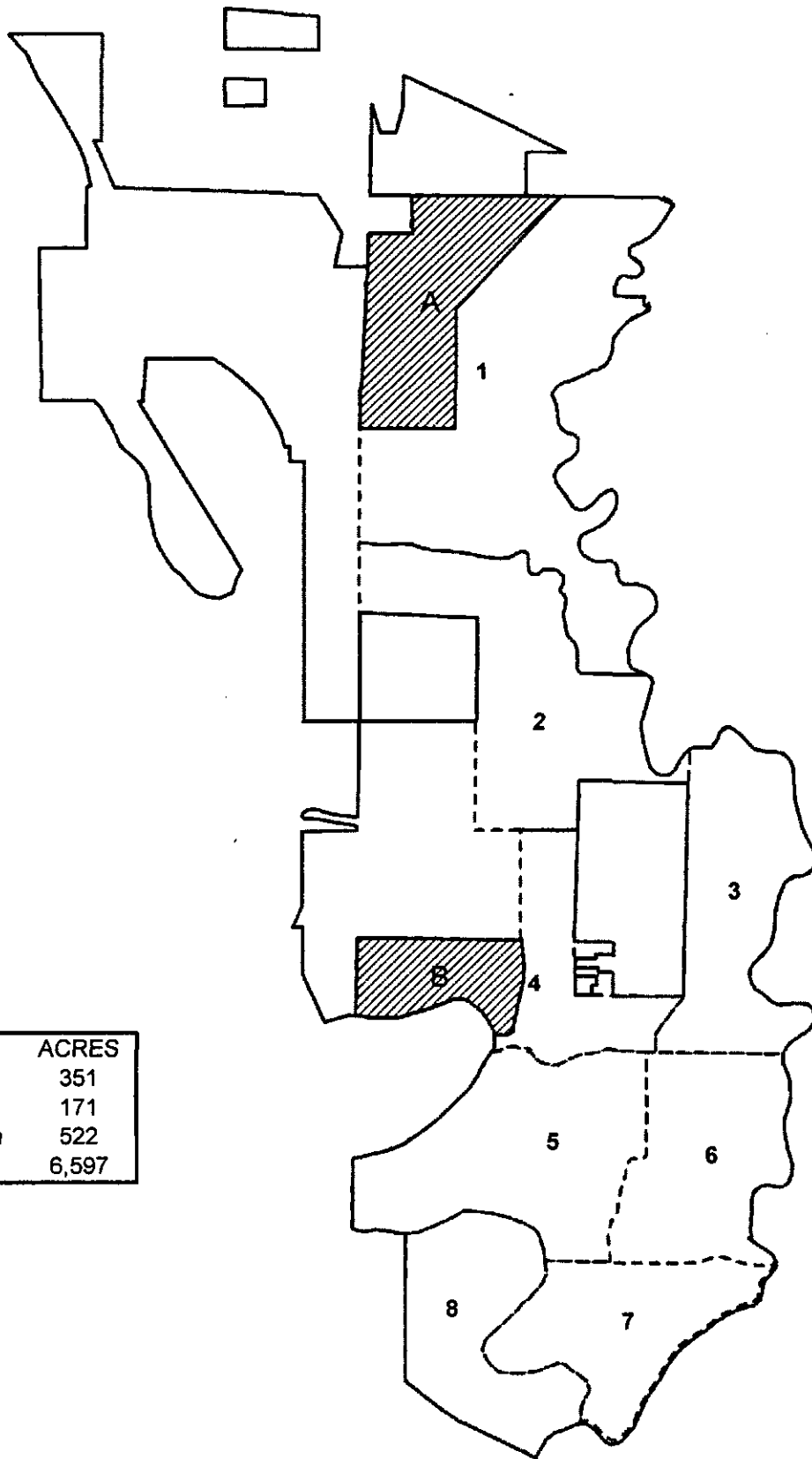


Joyce WMA Natural Area







- compartment
- natural area
- compartment number
- WMA boundary

Little River WMA Natural Area

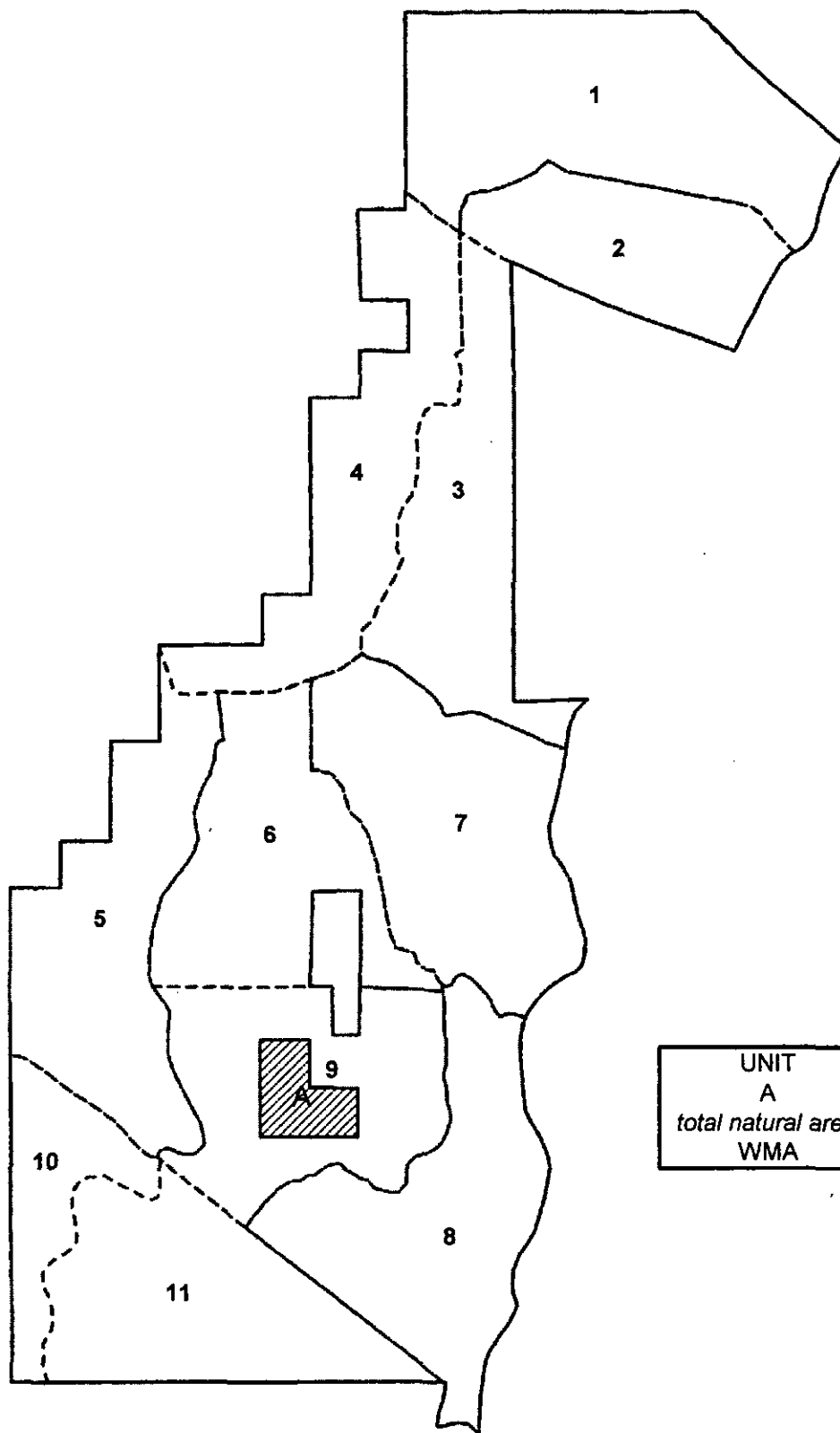


UNIT	ACRES
A	351
B	171
<i>total natural area</i>	522
WMA	6,597





-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary

0.00 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00 1.25 mi

Loggy Bayou WMA Natural Area



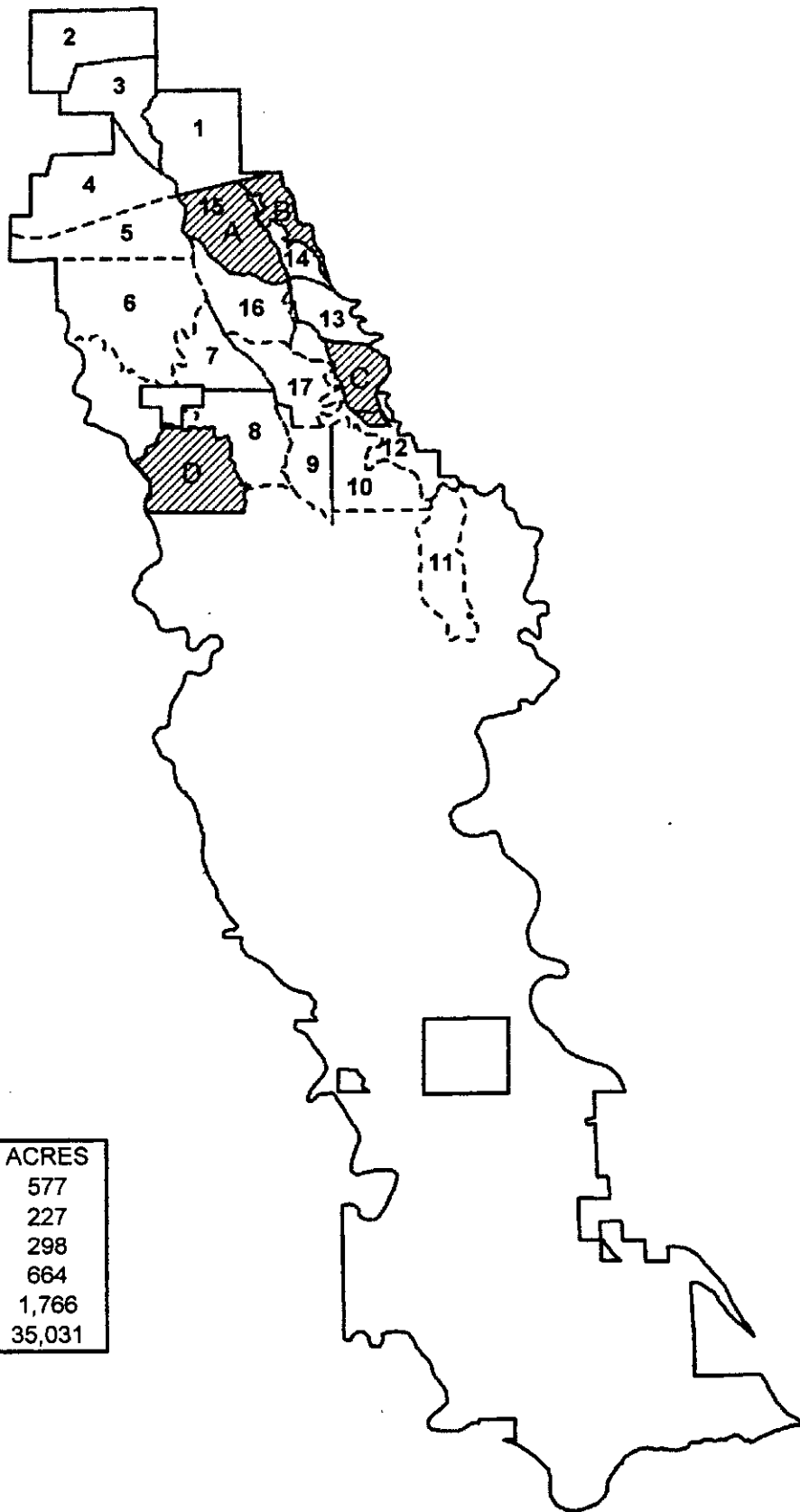
UNIT	ACRES
A	116
<i>total natural area</i>	116
WMA	8,746

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary







Ouachita WMA

Natural Area

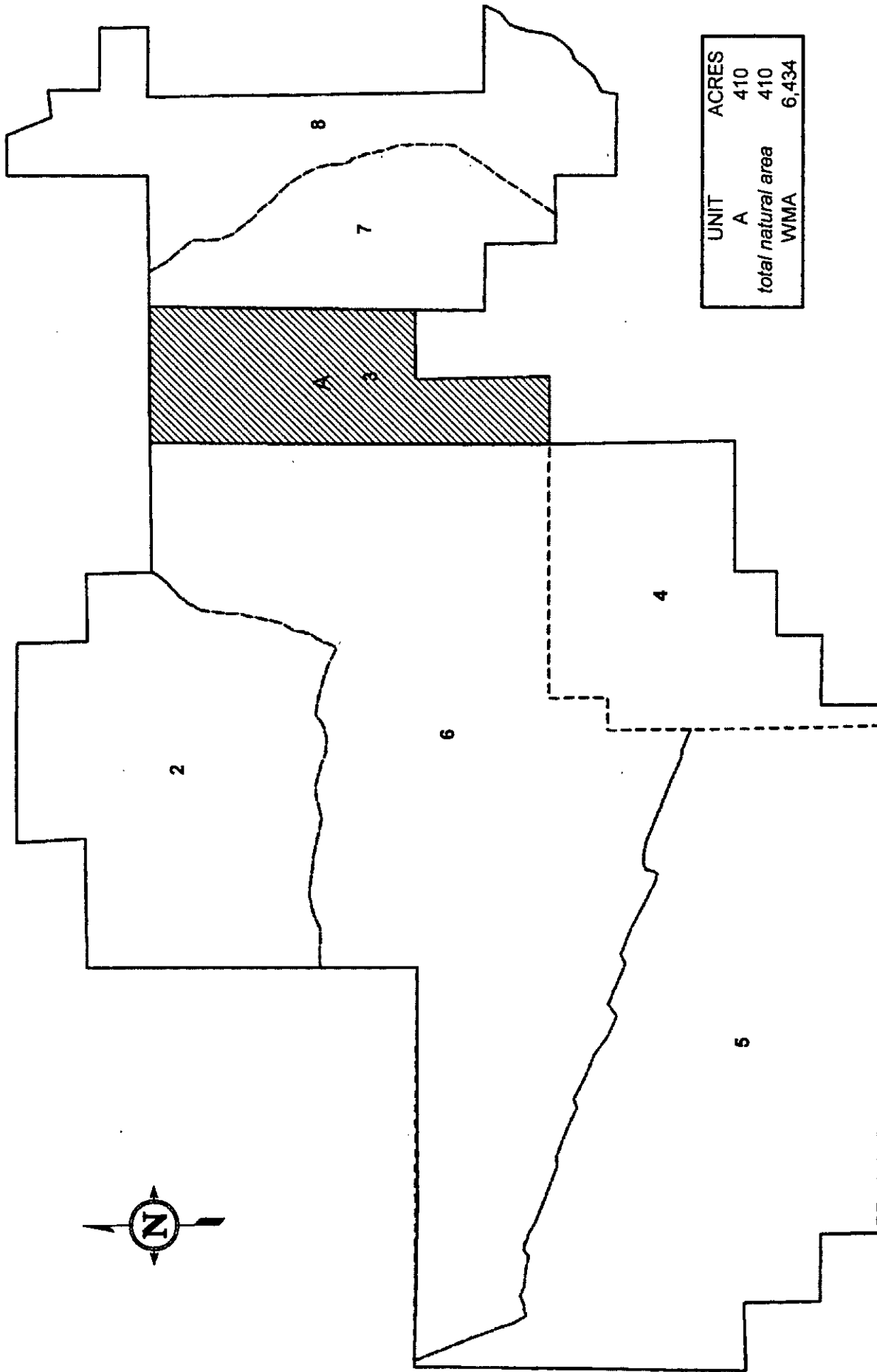


UNIT	ACRES
A	577
B	227
C	298
D	664
<i>total natural area</i>	1,766
WMA	35,031

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Pearl River WMA Natural Area



compartment

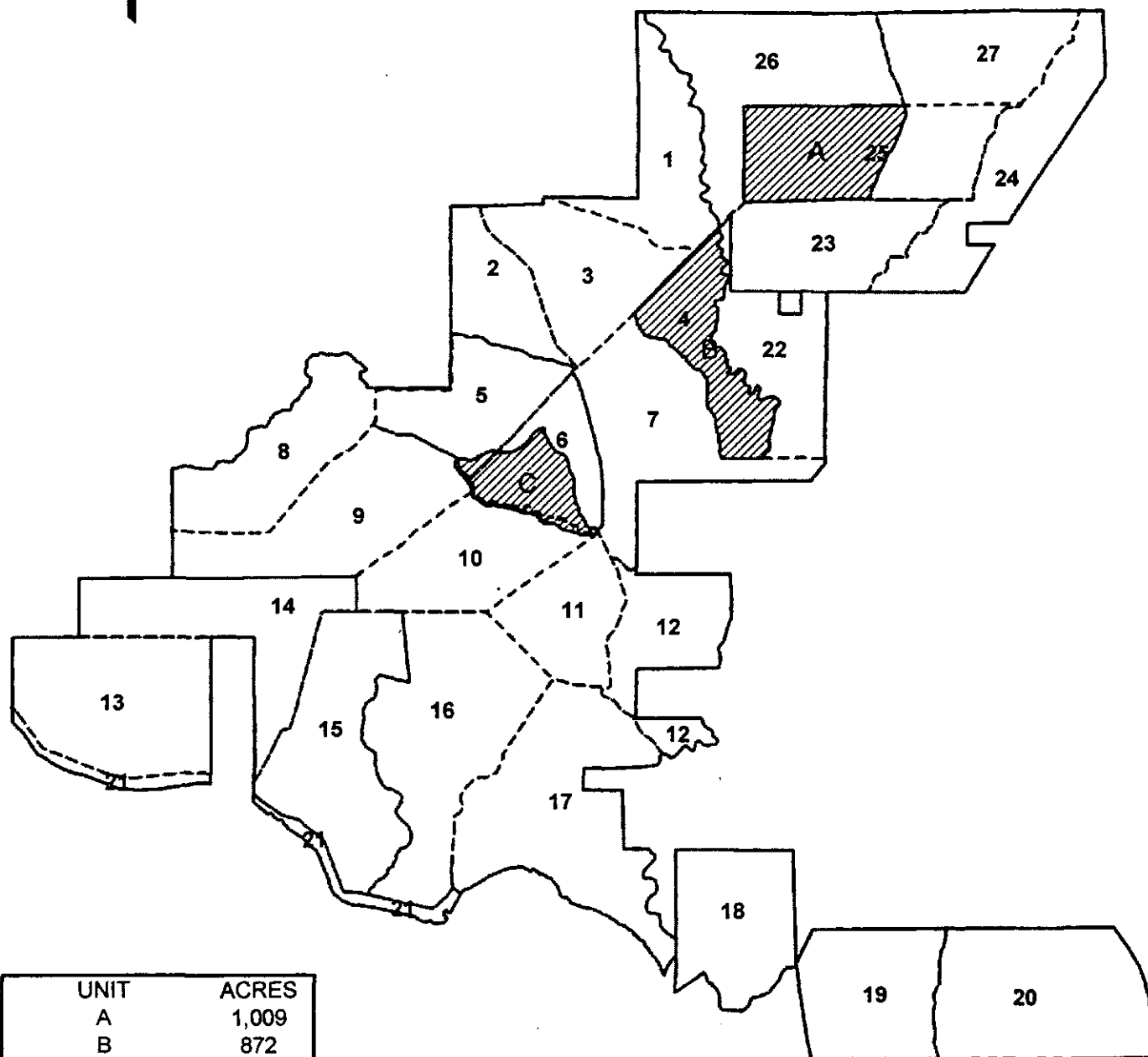
natural area

compartment number

WMA boundary

UNIT	ACRES
A	410
total natural area	410
WMA	6,434

Pomme de Terre WMA Natural Area



UNIT	ACRES
A	1,009
B	872
C	541
<i>total natural area</i>	<i>2,422</i>
WMA	36,211

 compartment

 natural area

 compartment number

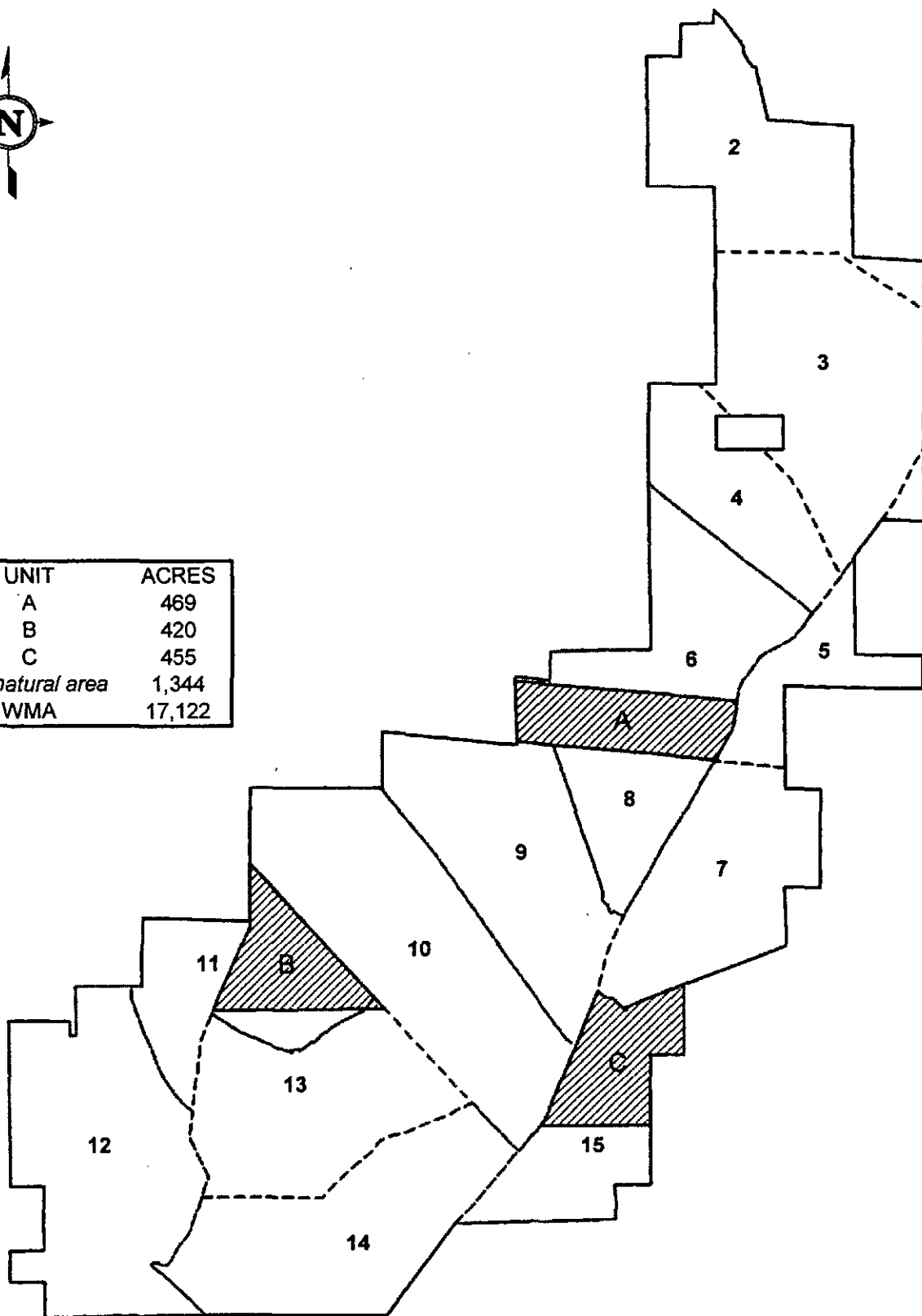
 WMA boundary







Red River WMA Natural Area



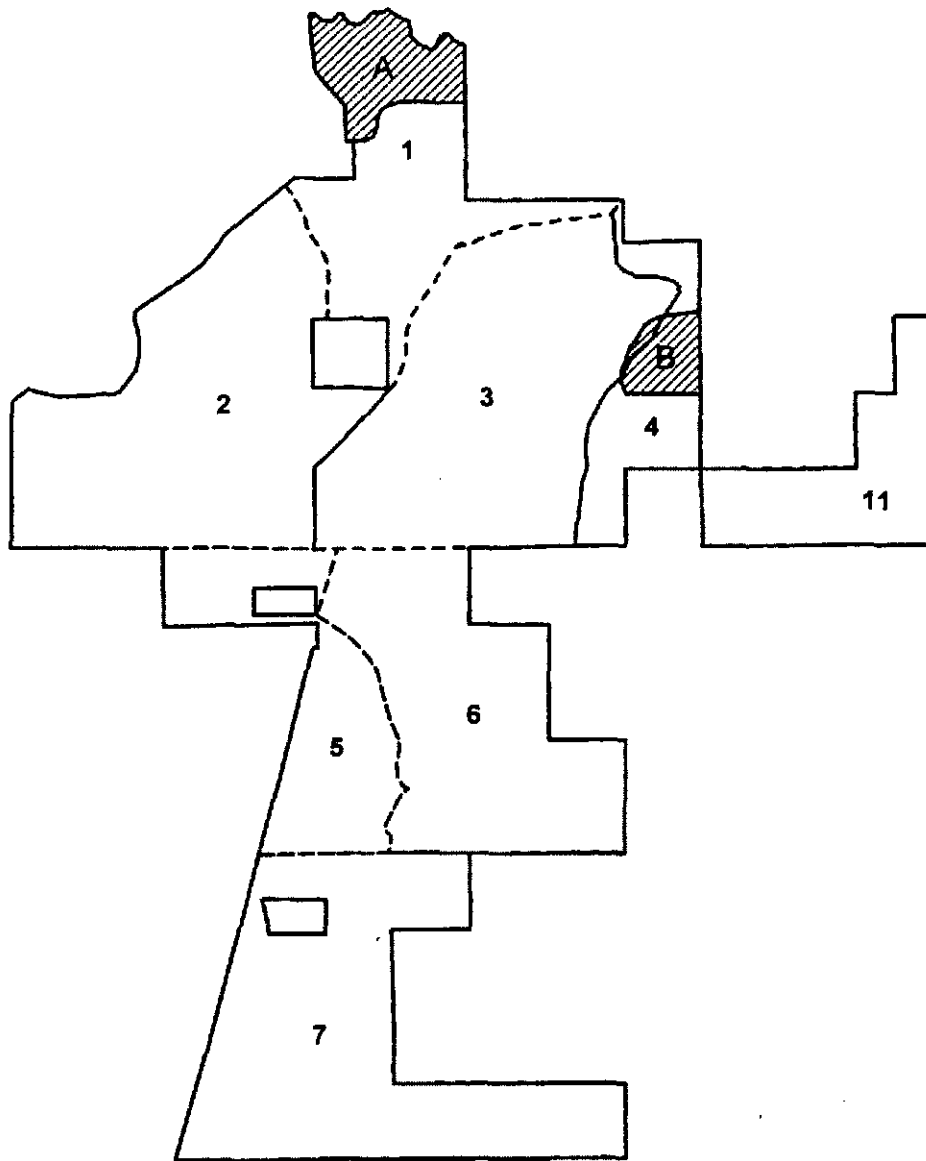
UNIT	ACRES
A	469
B	420
C	455
<i>total natural area</i>	1,344
WMA	17,122



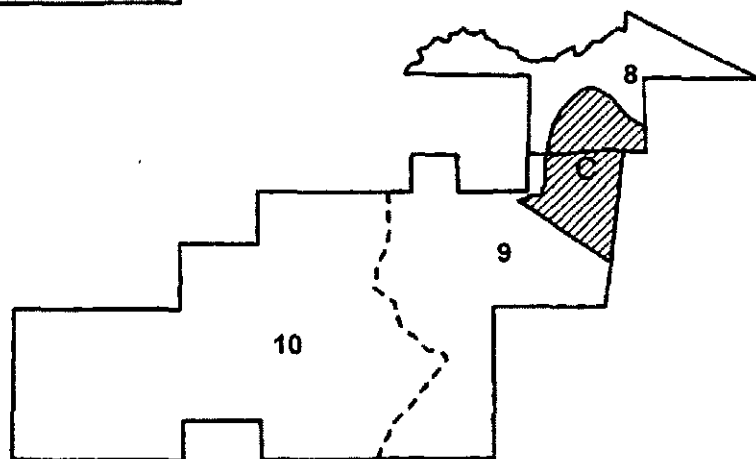
-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary







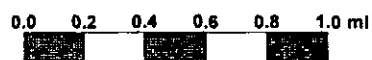
Russell Sage WMA
Natural Area



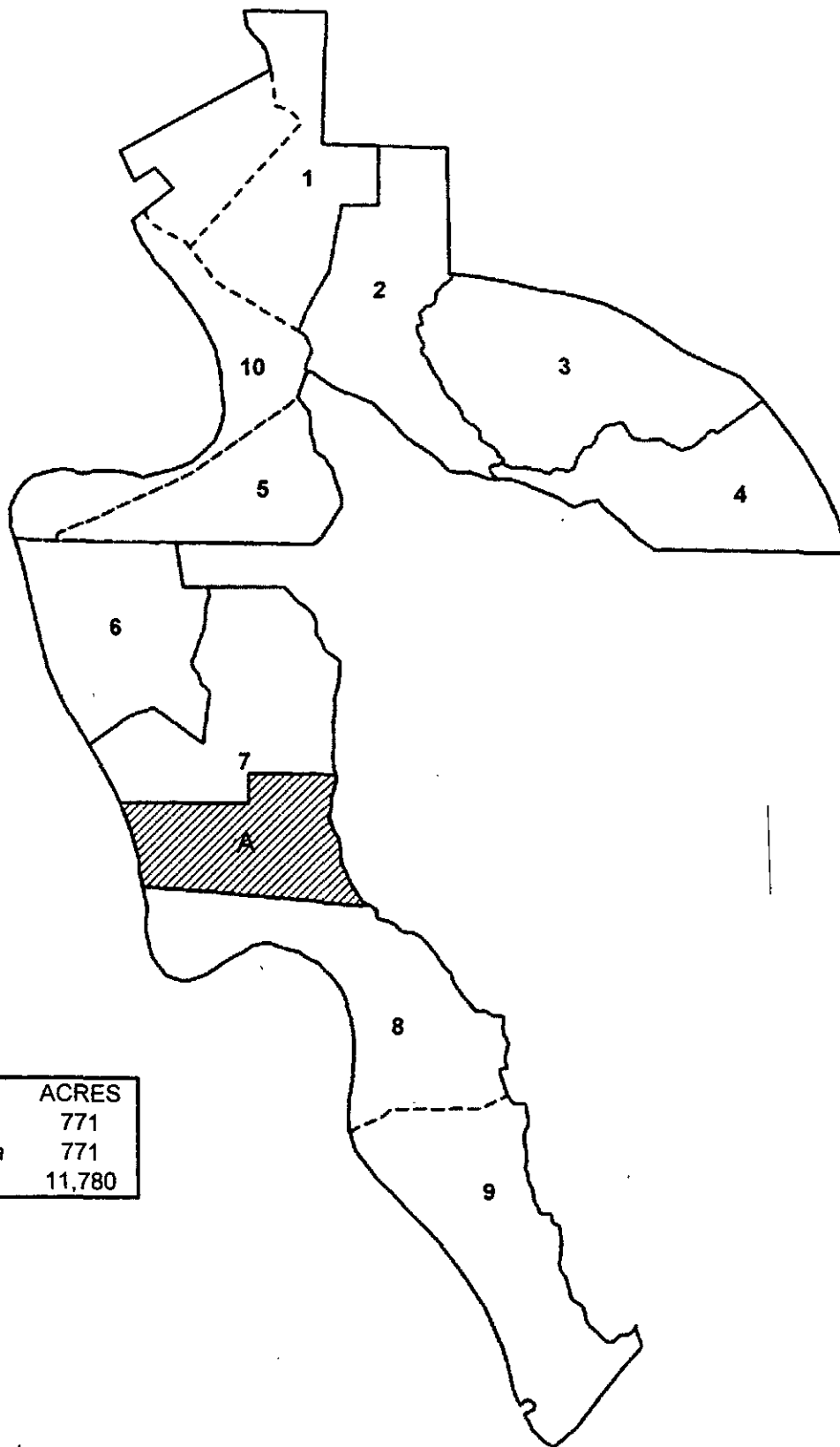
UNIT	ACRES
A	88
B	37
C	79
<i>total natural area</i>	204
WMA	3,515







-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Sandy Hollow WMA Natural Area



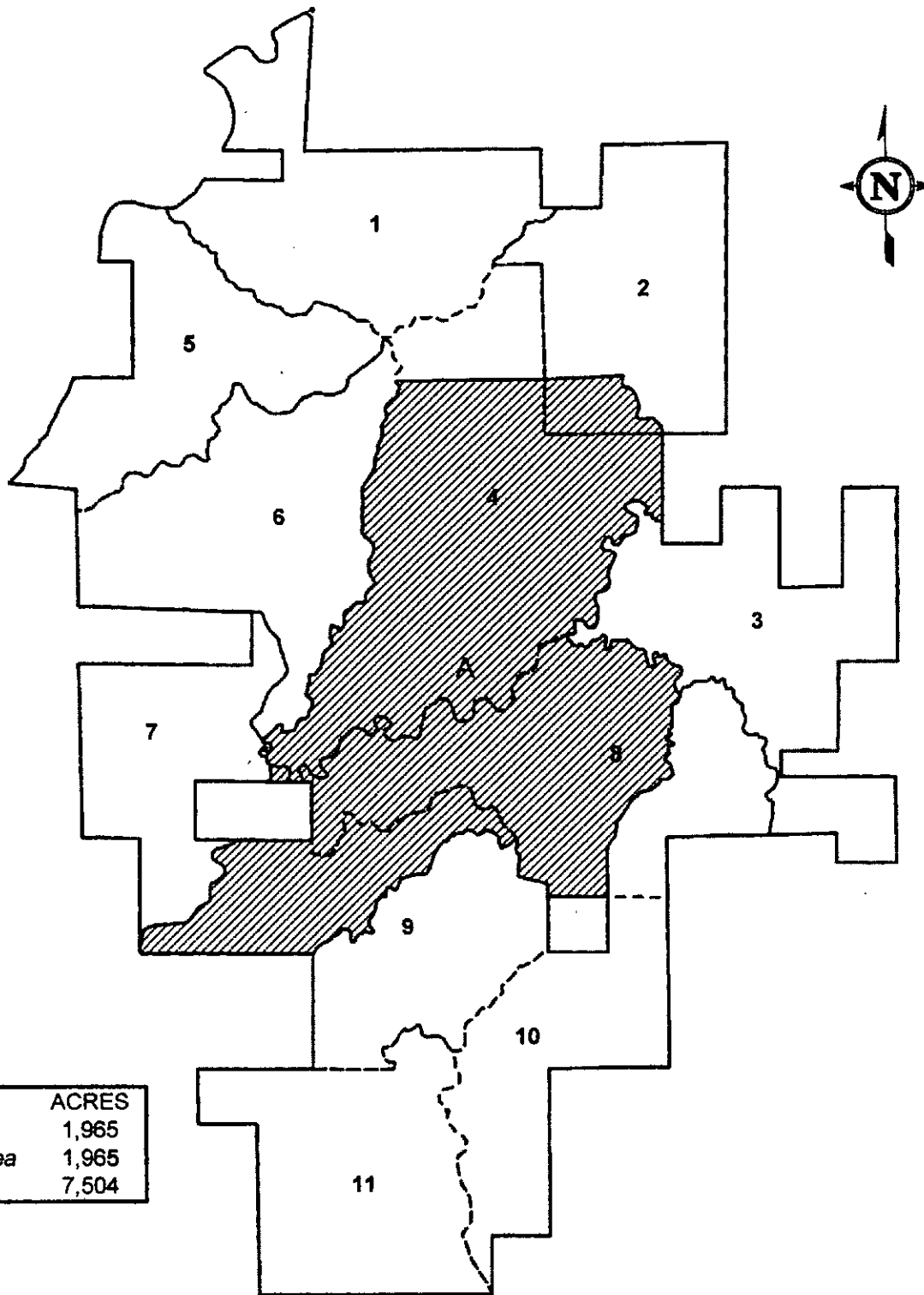
UNIT	ACRES
A	771
<i>total natural area</i>	771
WMA	11,780

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary







Sherburne WMA

Natural Area



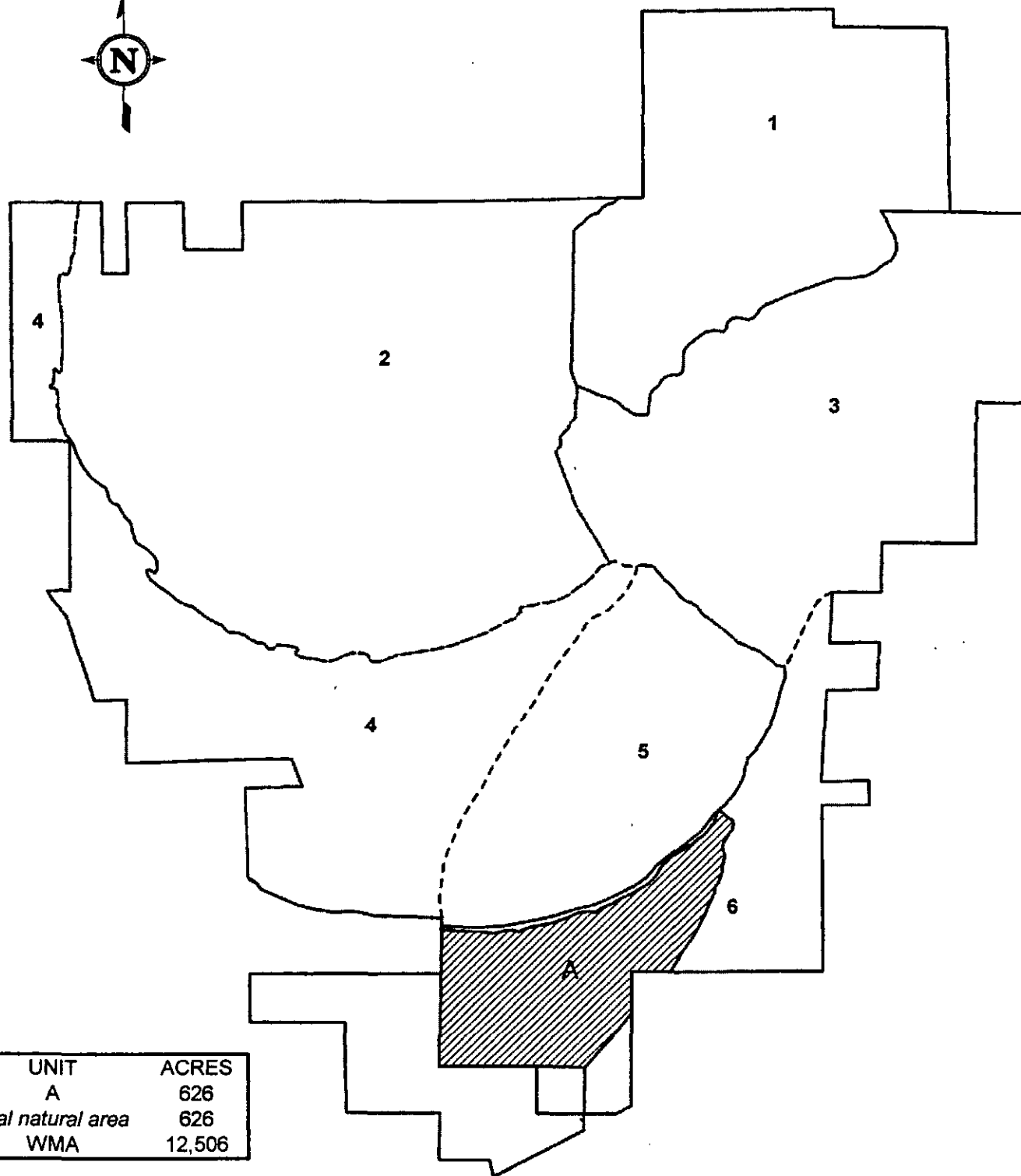
UNIT	ACRES
A	1,965
<i>total natural area</i>	1,965
WMA	7,504

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary







Sicily Island WMA


Natural Area



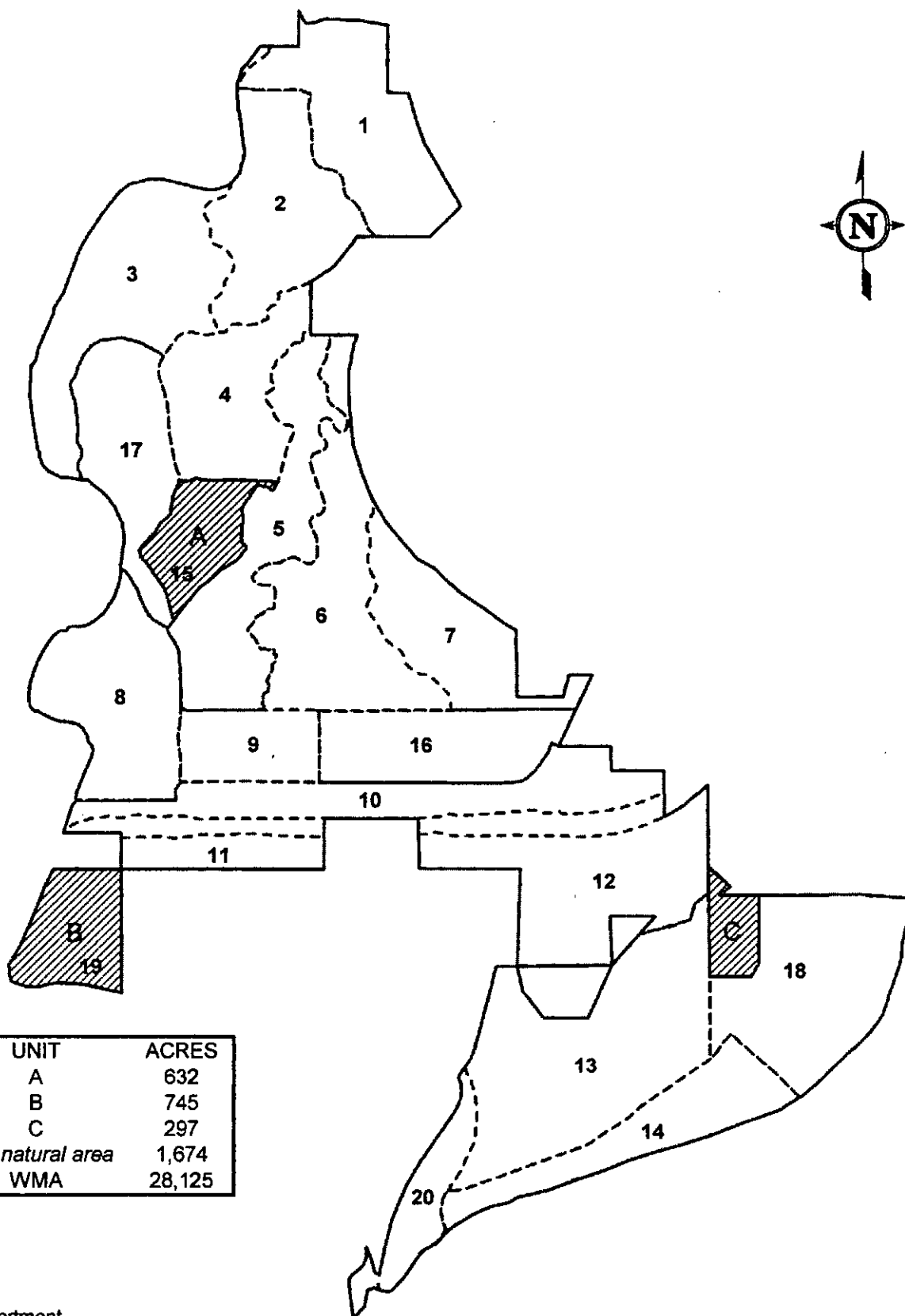
UNIT	ACRES
A	626
<i>total natural area</i>	626
WMA	12,506

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary





0.00 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00 1.25 mi



Spring Bayou WMA Natural Area

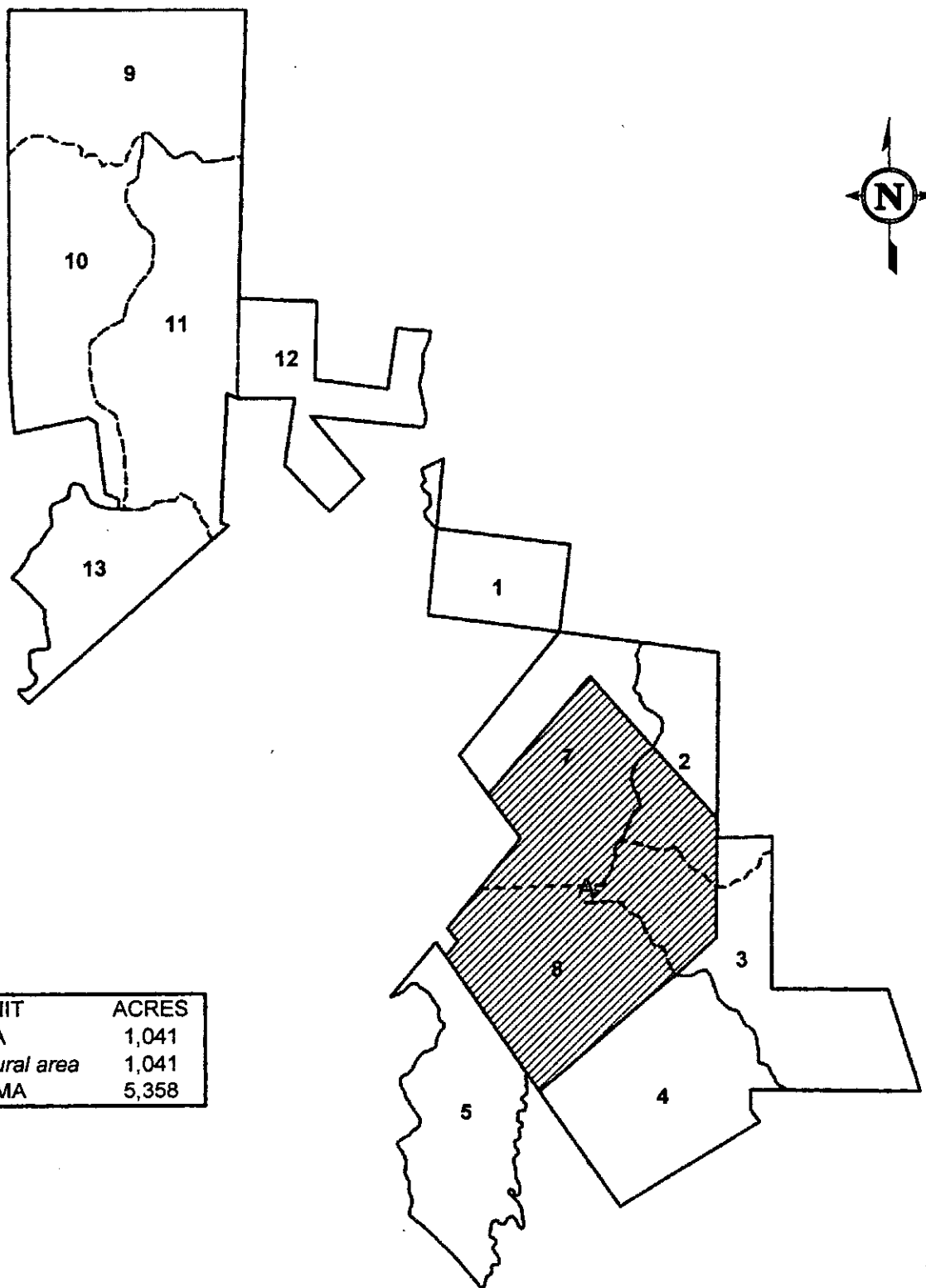


UNIT	ACRES
A	632
B	745
C	297
<i>total natural area</i>	1,674
WMA	28,125





-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Three Rivers WMA Natural Area



UNIT	ACRES
A	1,041
<i>total natural area</i>	1,041
WMA	5,358

-  compartment
-  natural area
-  compartment number
-  WMA boundary



Tunica Hills WMA Natural Area

Attachment 2.

Natural Area management guidelines:

- 1) Every feasible effort should be made to ensure that disease outbreaks external to the natural area should be prevented from entering the natural area.
- 2) Disease outbreaks within the natural area may be controlled.
- 3) No commercial timber removal, salvage or sanitation cutting will be allowed unless such management is consistent with the goals of the natural area.
- 4) If beaver numbers reach a level considered damaging to the forest resources within and/or outside the boundaries of the NA, population control will be performed.
- 5) Removal and control of exotic plant species will be encouraged.
- 6) Existing ATV trails will remain open to the public, and restrictions strictly enforced.
- 7) Hunting will not be restricted within the natural area.
- 8) No new roads should be constructed within the boundaries of the natural area. Pre-existing woods roads not currently designated as ATV trails shall be allowed to revert to forest.
- 9) A nature trail, if established through the natural area, shall follow existing trails, rights-of-way, etc.
- 10) Because of the unique nature of this area, all mineral exploration and removal should be closely regulated and all options, such as offset drilling, should be fully considered. Drilling on the area will be allowed if the state geologist verifies that offset drilling is not feasible.
- 11) Mineral activities should be restricted to existing woods roads, where possible; roads and project sites shall be restored upon project completion.
- 12) As data becomes available, additional management may be recommended. For example, studies are now being conducted on methods of more rapidly attaining a close approximation of an old-growth forest, and some manipulation of tree species composition may be necessary to more closely duplicate the historic natural condition.